

MAPS Meet Camp Guidelines and Information

Welcome, and thank you for joining us for the Mid-Atlantic Primitive Skills Gathering (M.A.P.S. Meet). **Please print this information**, read it, and bring it with you to the event. Consider this your gate book, it will help with making this a smooth running, enjoyable event. There isn't a good signal once you leave the highway so **accessing this document online be virtually impossible**.

Welcome to the annual Mid-Atlantic Primitive Skills Gathering (M.A.P.S. Meet) located at in Harpers Ferry West Virginia at the Ancestral Knowledge Primitive Camp in Harpers Ferry, WV

- Cell Signal on site is weak, PLEASE PRINT OUT THE INFO PACKET

How the MAPS Meet Works

Check in

- Gates open at 4pm on Thursday May 22nd and close at 9pm for arrival. They reopen at 7AM on Friday. ***(unless you're an instructor or on staff, please do not arrive before that time and expect entry)***
- All participants must check in upon arrival. *(follow signs)*
- Someone should be at the check in table until 9:00pm. If you arrive the morning of the first day of workshops, you must check in between 7:30am – 8:30am at the registration table.
- **Bring printed and completed forms and waivers to the check-in table with you. *(these forms are found below and via links in the original email)***
- When you check-in you will receive a Woodallion. This is your pass to meals and workshops. It also has a nature name on the other side, more on that below.
- Please put your name on one side of the Woodallion when you receive it.

If you arrive after hours

- Drop your gear off at designated area.
- Move car to parking areas; Right side of road heading East(*toward pond*) or on left/right side of road heading south toward the cabin (*parking is not allowed in the event space, campsites or fields*)
- Set up camp; The camping areas are in the forest (starting 20 yards in from the roads). DO NOT CAMP on the north side of the road heading toward the pond or in the main event space or circle of structures. Camping is allowed anywhere in the forested open spaces. To the north of our main camp or to the south of the pond road. No camping between the pond road and the powerlines.
- Check in with Bill or whoever is at the registration table during breakfast.

Parking/setting up

- Once you check in you will be instructed to unload your gear and park your car in the designated areas.
- Parking is limited and your car may be "parked in" for the duration of the event. Please come prepared to stay for the days attending.
- Park where and how you are instructed. Park tight, park close (3ft apart), and pull in deep.

There are daily tasks during the event that support the needs of the community

- **Every participant ages 13-70** are needed to participate in accomplishing one daily task during the event. The task groups meet at the beginning of Breakfast and Dinner. Your task group will be indicated with a nature name/symbol that will be given to you at check in. At morning circle, you will be asked to briefly meet with your task group leader.
- **Woodallion/Nature Name/symbol**– When you check in you will receive a nature name or symbol. That name/symbol corresponds with a task group. Please make note of your nature name/symbol and task. Your task group will meet during a meal time to complete the task at hand.

- Task groups meet during breakfast and dinner. You only need to sign up for one, but you can join as many task groups as you like during the event. We encourage it actually. **It's a great way to meet new people and connect with others in the community!**
- There are task group leaders (work traders) that facilitate the daily tasks. Your name will be called at the morning circle by your group leader. Also, the schedule of tasks will be posted by the signup sheets for reference.
- During the meal when you're assigned task is scheduled, **go to the front of the line and eat first.** After you eat, please report to your groups task immediately. It's your responsibility to be prompt and check in with the group leader. They don't like having to hunt you down, but they will.

If you are on a food prep task (the most desired crew) you are needed in the kitchen **1.5 hours prior to the meal time.** Please plan your workshop schedule carefully with food prep in mind. Most instructors are able to provide extra time with you to finish your projects if you have to leave early for food prep.

Meals (we serve two healthy meals per day)

- Each ticket to the event included meals; starting with breakfast the first day of the event.
- You must **bring your own Bowls, Plates, Cups, mugs and utensils** etc to eat with.
- **Covered seating is limited for meals** so please make room for others by making space when you are finished eating. You may want to bring a blanket, folding or camp chair for your outdoor dining and campfire options. This is a primitive camp location and amenities are limited. We do not provide tables and chairs.
- Feel free to help **expedite the clean up process by lending a hand after meals.** This is especially helpful in the mornings so everyone can make it to morning circle on time.
- Meal times will be signaled. If you don't hear the signal, please assume the meals will be served during scheduled meal times.
- If you have not registered as a vegetarian/vegan, please **DO NOT EAT** the vegetarian/vegan meals.
- **First meal** is breakfast Friday morning, last meal is breakfast Monday morning
- **Breakfast** will be between 7:45-8:45am.
- **Lunch** is between 1pm-2pm, **(you are responsible for providing your own non perishable lunch foods).** *Please bring nonperishable food items for your lunches. (No Ice or refrigerators are available on site, nearest ice is 15 minutes away)*
- **Dinner** will be served around 630pm.
- We are not able to accommodate all the food allergies or personal likes and dislikes however we do accommodate for most. This is a large event and we do the best we can to keep it simple and provide good healthy meals for everyone. **Please bring any supplemental foods if you are concerned or have a very unique diet.** If you have any food or kitchen-related questions, speak to Alice, the Chef.
- The kitchen is open only to kitchen staff.

The Day's Activities

- **Morning Circle-** We will assemble at the fire circle each morning at 8:45am. It is IMPORTANT that EVERYONE participate in these circles. Important information about the workshops will be shared at the morning circles. It is very important that everyone attend.
- **Adult Skills workshops ages 13 and older** - Generally there will be 2 sessions each day, 1st session is after morning circle & 2nd session is after lunch.
- **The Schedule and session signup sheets** will be posted near the main pavilion (or another designated area). The signup sheets will get posted after dinner the night before the skills sessions are scheduled. Once ALL the signup sheets are posted you can begin signing up for the workshops.
- A map will be posted (maybe, but probably not) indicating all the different workshop locations. **Please attend the morning circles to confirm the locations and times please bring a pen and paper to write down session information. You are ultimately responsible for knowing where and when to meet your instructor.**

Camping/lodging

- **You must check in before you set up camp** (unless you arrive after hours). You will be directed to the camping areas from the registration table. If you set up in an area that is off limits to camping, you will be asked to relocate.
- Once your gear is dropped off all cars must be removed from the camping areas
- No cars are allowed in camp (beyond the powerlines) during the event. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- You will be tent camping (there are no shelters available at this location)

- When you are leaving, please take a look around and give a helping hand to leave the camp better than we received it.
- **You must pack out your own trash**

For the first timer:

We recommend arriving the night before your first day of workshop participation. As a newbie we recommend participating in any Fire making, Fiber, Foraging and Carving workshops. These skills are a great starting point for learning earth skills and are the foundation of many ancient and traditional skills.

Rules and General information:

- There are composting toilets and a shower house please help keep them clean by not leaving a mess.
- Showering- well, we will see how showering goes... we have a couple primitive showers set up until our well is installed and the shower house is completed.
- Composting Toilets: if you don't know how they work, please ask, it's not embarrassing. Whenever possible, pee in the forest and bag your tissues.
- There are hand washing stations in a couple locations.
- **All water activities are at your own risk.** There is a pond, creeks, and the Shenandoah River, there is **NO lifeguard on duty. You are responsible for yourself and your children.**
- **No dogs** or other pets are allowed in camp, except pre-approved guide or service dogs.
- Do not use the archery/atlatl range unless the **Range Master** is present.
- Please bring trash bags to pack out your garbage.
- There will be a designated lost and found. Please place found items in the lost and found. All lost and found items are donated to the thrift store 2 weeks after the event if not claimed and picked up.
- If there are any problems that require a cleanup feel free to clean it up yourself and find others to assist you if needed. This is a community event please help take responsibility for its success.
- Please report any problems to **MAPS Meet Coordinator Bill or site coordinator Chad.** Please report any injuries or first aid requirements immediately to the **First Aid Coordinator.**
- This event is open to all people. Please be sure to respect each other, each other's space and how each person identifies. Anyone who is found to be purposefully disrespectful will be asked to leave the event without haste.
- All adults must act like adults when necessary and all children must act like children always.

Hazards

- Copperheads and rattlesnakes live in the area. These snakes blend in very well. Please tread lightly, be aware, and keep your distance if you come across one.
- Ticks are in the woods. Please take responsibility of checking yourself and family for ticks at least twice a day. They like to hide in the places most would avoid looking.
- Spiders-black widow and brown recluse spiders have been found on this property.
- Bears are in the area. Try to bring nonperishable foods that can be stored in cars.

Things to bring

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| 1. Tent | 13. Musical instruments, Optional (drums, guitars, whatever sounds good at a camp fire) |
| 2. Trash bags for your personal trash (pack-in pack-out) | 14. An open mind or empty cup |
| 3. Sleeping bag | 15. Swim suit |
| 4. 1-2 gallons of water per day per person (for drinking) | 16. Toiletries |
| 5. Clothes for the season (warm days cold nights) | 17. Money for the raffles, camp store and material fees |
| 6. Hat | 18. Bug spray (all natural we hope) |
| 7. Sunscreen | 19. Small handheld mirror for tick checks |
| 8. Flashlight | 20. Notebook and pen |
| 9. Refillable Water bottle- we ask that bottled spring water not come to this event. | 21. Camera |
| 10. Cooler for lunch Foods (no Styrofoam coolers allowed at the event. All coolers to be kept at your camp site) | 22. Camp folding chair for dining (if possible) |
| 11. bowls, plates, cups, utensils for your meals | 23. Rain Gear |
| 12. Small chair or seat cushion | 24. Anything else that you think you may need. |

