WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE
BETTY IRELAND
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

Form #3

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2005 JUL 29 P 3:05

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NOTICE OF AGENCY APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED RULE AND FILING WITH THE LEGISLATIVE RULE-MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE

AGENCY: Division of Natural Resources TITLE NUMBER: 58

CITE AUTHORITY: Ch. 20-5-2

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES X NO ____

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: 31

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: Rules governing public use of West Virginia State Parks, State Forests, and State Wildlife Management Areas under the Division of Natural Resources

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: ____

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: ____

THE ABOVE PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE RULE HAVING GONE TO A PUBLIC HEARING OR A PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD IS HEREBY APPROVED BY THE PROMULGATING AGENCY FOR FILING WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE LEGISLATIVE RULE-MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR THEIR REVIEW.

Brian Helmick

Authorized Signature

L. Thomas Bulla, Secretary
Department of Commerce
State Capitol
Building 6, Room 525
Charleston, WV 25305-0311

State of West Virginia
Joe Manchin III
Governor

Telephone: (304) 558-2234
Toll Free: (800) 982-3386
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www.boc.state.wv.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: Betty Ireland, Secretary of State

FROM: L. Thomas Bulla, Secretary

SUBJECT: Approval to File Agency Approved Rules
Division of Natural Resources Series 58

DATE: July 28, 2005

Permission is hereby granted for the Division of Natural Resources to file the following agency approved rules:

58CSR12	Whitewater Rule
58CSR25	Boating Rule
58CSR31	Rules Governing Public Use of West Virginia State Parks, State Forests, and State Wildlife Management Areas under the Division of Natural Resources
58CSR46	Rule Defining the Terms to be Used Concerning All Hunting and Fishing Rules
58CSR52	Wild Boar Hunting
58CSR58	Special Waterfowl Hunting Rule
58CSR64	Miscellaneous Permits and Licenses
58CSR65	Falconry Rules
58CSR67	Lifetime Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Licenses Rules

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

LTB:ffh

cc: Brian Helmick, Deputy Secretary
Frank Jezioro, Director

QUESTIONNAIRE

(Please include a copy of this form with each filing of your rule: Notice of Public Hearing or Comment Period; Proposed Rule, and if needed, Emergency and Modified Rule.)

DATE: July 28, 2005

TO: LEGISLATIVE RULE-MAKING REVIEW COMMITTEE

FROM:(*Agency Name, Address & Phone No.*) Division of Natural Resources - Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Building 3 Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

LEGISLATIVE RULE TITLE: Rules governing public use of West Virginia State Parks, State Forests, and State Wildlife Management Areas under the Division of Natural Resources

1. Authorizing statute(s) citation Ch. 20-5-2

2. a. Date filed in State Register with Notice of Hearing or Public Comment Period:

   June 29, 2005

   b. What other notice, including advertising, did you give of the hearing?
   State wide press release

   c. Date of Public Hearing(s) ***or*** Public Comment Period ended:

   July 29, 2005

   d. Attach list of persons who appeared at hearing, comments received, amendments, reasons for amendments.

   Attached X No comments received _____

e. Date you filed in State Register the agency approved proposed Legislative Rule following public hearing: (be exact)

July 29, 2005

f. **Name, title, address and <u>phone/fax/e-mail numbers</u>** of agency person(s) to receive all *written correspondence* regarding this rule: (Please type)

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

304-558-2764 - phone
304-558-0077 - fax
johnpope@wvdnr.gov

g. **<u>IF DIFFERENT</u> FROM ITEM 'f'**, please give **Name, title, address and phone number(s)** of agency person(s) who wrote and/or has responsibility for the contents of this rule: (Please type)

Douglas P. Baker, Business Manager
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, Room 712
Charleston, WV 25305

304-558-2764 - phone

3. If the statute under which you promulgated the submitted rules requires certain findings and determinations to be made as a condition precedent to their promulgation:

a. Give the date upon which you filed in the State Register a notice of the time and place of a hearing for the taking of evidence and a general description of the issues to be decided.

Not applicable

b. Date of hearing or comment period:

June 29, 2005 to July 29, 2005

c. On what date did you file in the State Register the findings and determinations required together with the reasons therefor?

July 29, 2005

d. Attach findings and determinations and reasons:

Attached See attached

Summary of Proposed Rule

§ 58-31-1. General

To eliminate references to state forests and state wildlife management areas as being under the jurisdiction and management of the Department of Agriculture. Other areas managed by other sections of DNR are included under other rule titles under Title 58.

Summary of Proposed Rule Change

To amend the existing rule to permit overnight state park cabin guest to keep their pets with them in their cabin. This rule change reinstates a policy enacted in the mid-1980's that prohibited cabin guests from bringing their pets with them on vacation to West Virginia State Parks.

Summary of Proposed Rule

2.21 To Amend the existing rule to give the Director of The Division of Natural Resources the authority to provide written permission to groups who rent a certain state park facilities, to possess beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages for functions not open to the general public. The other changes to this rule are technical changes to the rule.

Statement of Circumstances Which Require this Rule Change

§ 58-31-1. General

The purpose of this proposed rule change is to remove language no longer relevant to the scope of this rule. No state forests or state wildlife management areas are under the jurisdiction and management of the Department of Agriculture. Areas managed by other sections of the Division of Natural Resources are covered under other rule titles under Title 58.

Statement of Circumstances Which Require This Rule

2.12 Until the mid-1980's guests who stayed in state park and state forest cabins were permitted to bring their pets with them. Those pets were limited to cats and dogs. The first year following this rule change the Parks and Recreation Section received hundreds of calls objecting to this change. As the years have passed this number has dropped considerably, but occasionally the Parks and Recreation Office receives calls requesting this policy be reinstated. As our population ages and children leave home, many couples and individuals have pets for company and companionship. As is customary in the private sectior the Parks and Recreation Section believes it appropriate to add an additional one time non-refundable fee of $75 to the cabin rental to cover the additional cleaning costs required to thoroughly clean the cabins, as well as setting aside a small percentage of cabins to be designated as pet friendly units.

Statement of Circumstances Which Require This Rule.

2.21 The Division of Natural Resources has enacted a broad general prohibition on beer, wine, liquor, and other alcoholic beverages within the boundaries of historical, day-use, and natural state parks and all state forests. Many groups, however, often rent picnic shelters, activities buildings, meeting rooms and similar facilities for group functions not open to the general public and desire the opportunity to serve alcoholic beverages for their event, for example, a wedding reception. This amended rule would give the Director authorization to provide groups with written permission to possess alcoholic beverages, thereby giving state parks and state forests the flexibility to adapt to an ever changing and competitive marketplace.

APPENDIX B

FISCAL NOTE FOR PROPOSED RULES

Rule Title: Rules Governing public use of WV State Parks, Forests, and Wildlife Managemen

Type of Rule: [X] Legislative [ ] Interpretive [ ] Procedural

Agency: Division of Natural Resources

Address: State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Phone Number: 304-558-2764 Email: dougbaker@wvdnr.gov

Fiscal Note Summary

Summarize in a clear and concise manner what impact this measure will have on costs and revenues of state government.

These proposed rule changes would have a positive impact on park revenues. The proposed rule to give the Director the flexibility to permit groups who rent certain park facilities for private functions the permission to serve alcoholic beverages to their guests offers the potential for parks to rent more facilites such as conference rooms, activity buildings, and picnic shelters. The proposed rule change to permit pets in state park cabins should open state park cabins to another market of potential guests who travel with their pets.

Fiscal Note Detail

Show over-all effect in Item 1 and 2 and, in Item 3, give an explanation of Breakdown by fiscal year, including long-range effect.

FISCAL YEAR			
Effect of Proposal	Current 2006 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Next 2007 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost			
Personal Services			
Current Expenses			
Repairs & Alterations			
Assets			
Other			
2. Estimated Total Revenues	2,000.00	7,000.00	

Rule Title: _____

Rule Title: Rules Governing public use of WV State Parks, Forests, and Wildlife Management

3. Explanation of above estimates (including long-range effect):
Please include any increase or decrease in fees in your estimated total revenues.

The increase in revenues would primarily result from Parks having the ability to appeal to a broader market of potential renters by offering these rule changes. Parks does not forsee any increase in expenses except those assiciated with normal rentals, whoich should be covered by the increased revenues.

MEMORANDUM

Please identify any areas of vagueness, technical defects, reasons the proposed rule **would not** have a fiscal impact, and/or any special issues **not** captured elsewhere on this form.

The other changes to this rule are technical in nature. For example, adding a excepton to the prohibition to permit alcoholic beverages at the Chief Logan conference center and lodge, changing the name of Point Pleasant Battle Monument to Tu-Endie-Wei, and adding Camp Creek State Forest to the alcoholic beverage prohibition, which was omitted from previous rule changes.

Date: 7-29-05

Signature of Agency Head or Authorized Representative

Brian Helmick

Summary of Comments Received on Proposed Rule Change to Permit Pets in State Park Lodges and Cabins

The public comment period for this proposed rule change began June 28, 2005 and continued until noon July 29, 2005. During this comment period Parks received 1,076 written e-mail comments on permitting pets in state park cabins and 793 comments on permitting pets in state park lodges. Of those commenting on pets in state park cabins 644 respondents approved of making this rule change while 432 respondents were opposed to permitting pets in state park cabins. Of those commenting on pets in state park lodges 362 respondents approved of making this rule change while 431 respondents were opposed to permitting pets in state park lodges.

Parks has a history of permitting pets in cabins and we agree with those commenting in favor of reinstating this policy and are proposing such a rule change with the stipulations outlined in our Agency Approved Rule and the Statement of Circumstances.

A majority of respondents to the proposed rule change permitting pets in state park lodges expressed opposition to this change. While favoring allowing pets in state park cabins Parks agrees with those opposing this proposed rule change.

Summary of Comments Received on Proposed Rule Change to Authorize The DNR Director to Permit Alcoholic Beverages for Group Functions

Comments received on this proposed rule change were unfortunately based upon inaccurate information stated in a statewide news release and were not related to the specific change. Therefore, Parks is submitting the rule change as it was proposed. This rule as proposed gives the Director of the Division of Natural Resources the flexibility to permit group functions, not open to the general public, to serve alcoholic beverages in certain state park facilities.

FILED
2005 JUL 29 P 3:05
OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA
SECRETARY OF STATE

TITLE 58
LEGISLATIVE RULE
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

SERIES 31
PUBLIC USE OF WEST VIRGINIA STATE PARKS, STATE FORESTS, AND STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS UNDER THE DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

§58-31-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- This legislative rule governs the public use of West Virginia state parks, state forests, and recreation areas in state wildlife management areas under the jurisdiction and management of the Division of Natural Resources. ~~This rule shall not be construed to include the state forests or state wildlife management areas, or any areas or facilities in the state forests or state wildlife management areas, under the jurisdiction and management of the Department of Agriculture or other sections of the Division of Natural Resources, respectively.~~ This rule is necessary to provide for public health, safety and welfare; to protect state property; and to assure state recreational area guests of a safe, beneficial and enjoyable experience.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §20-5-2.

1.3. Filing Date. -- April 10, 2002.

1.4. Effective Date. -- May 1, 2002.

§58-31-2. General Rules Governing Public Use of State Parks, State Forests, and Recreational Areas in State Wildlife Management Areas under the Division of Natural Resources.

2.1. No person shall cut, deface, destroy, or drive any object into any tree, shrub, rock, sign, building, or other structure or object in a state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area. This subsection does not apply to the erection of temporary blinds or tree stands in state wildlife management areas.

2.2. No person shall remove any man-made or natural object, material, substance, plant, animal or historical or archeological relic or artifact from a state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area, except those legally acquired through hunting and fishing in accordance with W. Va. Code §20-2-1 et seq. or upon proper authorization in writing by the Chief of Parks and Recreation, Division of Natural Resources.

2.3. Fires may be lighted only in fireplaces, fire rings or grates provided by the State or in places designated by the area superintendent. Those persons responsible for a fire shall extinguish it completely before leaving it. Ashes, charcoal briquets and other materials used for a fire shall be left in the fireplace, fire ring, grate or place designated for the fire, or be deposited in a trash container or a container provided specifically for that purpose but only after they are extinguished. The materials shall not be strewn over the ground.

2.4. No person shall attempt to or hunt, catch, capture, take, kill, trap, pursue or have in his or her possession any animal, except as provided in W. Va. Code §20-2-1 et seq. Hunting is prohibited in all state parks; however, legally authorized hunting is permitted in state forests, and state wildlife management areas.

a. No person shall attempt to feed, or feed, any animal in a state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area, except a pet they own, or as part of a wildlife management program officially approved by the

state agency having lawful jurisdiction over the program.

2.5. Loud or excessive noise, demonstrations, disturbances, disorderly conduct, profanity, public drunkenness, and the possession or use of controlled substances is prohibited.

2.6. Swimming is prohibited in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas, except in places designated for that purpose.

2.7. Recreational activities including, but not limited to, rock climbing, rappelling, hang gliding, parachuting, parasailing, skydiving, spelunking and other like or similar recreational activities that require a high degree of specialized training and equipment are permitted, except where they are prohibited by posted signs. Persons who intend to participate in any such activity shall register at the area superintendent's office before engaging or participating in it and specify where it will take place. Participants in such activities assume full responsibility and liability for any risk or injury related to the activity. Scenic rocks, overlooks and vistas are for providing scenic beauty and aesthetic benefit for guests; therefore, they shall not be used for, or disfigured by, any such recreational activity. This subsection does not apply to golf, skiing, horseback riding, hunting or fishing.

2.8. Garbage, waste, bottles, cans, paper, junk, or any other trash or refuse shall not be dumped, deposited, or strewn within the boundary of any state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area.

2.9. Lodge rooms, cabins, campsites, picnic shelters, swimming pools and beaches, or any other facility shall not be subleased by guests or patrons.

2.10. It is unlawful for any person not to pay the rental, charge, or fee for any facility, service, activity or good he or she uses or purchases in a state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area.

2.11. Unless other operating hours are posted at all park entrances, only registered lodge, cabin, and camping guests, licensed hunters, and fishermen while hunting or fishing and persons who have authorized, legitimate business in a state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area are permitted on the premises between the closing hour of 10:00 P.M. and the opening hour of 6:00 A.M., during which hours the premises are closed to the general public.

2.12. Dogs and cats are the only pets permitted in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas. Pets are ~~prohibited~~ permitted in state park and state forest cabins and the areas immediately around them at those parks and forests identified by the Director of DNR for such use. The Director shall also have the discretion to set the number of state park and state forest cabins that will be designated as pet friendly, as well as to establish all necessary and incidental reservation policies and fees. Pets are prohibited in state park lodges, and in swimming pool and beach swimming areas. In and around campgrounds, picnic areas, playgrounds, designated roads and trails and other similar intense public use areas, they shall be restrained at all times on a sturdy leash not to exceed ten feet in length and their owner or master shall clean up the pet's excreta, keep it quiet and from disturbing other guests, and is responsible for all damages it causes. Cabin pet policy for facilities not directly operated by the state will be set by the contractual operator subject to the review and approval of the Director.

2.13. Explosives, incendiaries, flammables and other dangerous substances are prohibited in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas.

2.14. Uncased firearms, uncased bows, and uncased arrows are prohibited in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management

areas, and on state trails, except:

a. When the area is open for hunting (hunting is prohibited in state parks) or when a registered park or forest guest has the written permission of the area superintendent to carry them in a case from his or her lodge room, cabin or campsite to open hunting areas, or to an officially designated rifle, pistol, skeet, trap, target or shooting range;

b. Area superintendents may authorize their use in historical reenactments and plays; and

c. The Chief of Parks and Recreation, Division of Natural Resources, may authorize their use for a limited period in conjunction with recreational and arts and crafts programs.

2.15. The Division of Natural Resources assumes no responsibility for any personal property. If personal property is abandoned or left unattended by park guests more than forty-eight (48) hours, it will be removed from the public use area and disposed of according to law.

2.16. Hawking, peddling, soliciting, begging, advertising, or carrying on any business or commercial enterprise is prohibited in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas without the written permission of the Director of the Division of Natural Resources.

2.17. Fishing and boating are permitted in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas only in accordance with state law, fishing, and boating rules promulgated under the law, and rules publicly posted in those areas.

2.18. The speed limit for motor vehicles is thirty (30) miles per hour in state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas, except where a lower speed limit is posted. All traffic laws, signs and directions shall be strictly observed. Driving of motor vehicles in any manner that creates a nuisance to any guest by repetitive or continuous cruising or operation is prohibited.

2.19. Motor vehicles including, but not limited to, trail bikes, motorbikes, snowmobiles, and all terrain vehicles may be operated only on public roads usable by automotive vehicles, and on trails and areas designated for their use by the area superintendent by posted signs. It is unlawful for any unauthorized motor vehicle to go beyond a gate, cable, or other obstruction, or to proceed beyond any sign prohibiting such travel. All persons operating motor vehicles in state recreational areas shall obey and comply with all applicable state laws and rules.

a. Mountain and trail bicycles may be operated only on public roads, trails and other readily recognizable passageways such as logging roads and oil or gas well roads. They shall not be operated on horseback riding trails when they are open and operating as horseback riding trails, nor shall they be operated on any trail or road where their use is prohibited by posted signs.

b. For the purposes of this subsection, "mountain and trail bicycles" means any devices designed for operation on mountains and trails having two tandem wheels and pedals for propelling it by human power.

2.20. No person may operate a vehicle in a manner so as to harass, chase, or annoy any person or animal.

2.21. Except as authorized in writing by the Director for group functions, no person shall have in his or her possession beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages within the boundaries of the following historical, day use and natural area state parks which include:

Beartown,
Berkeley Springs,
Brush Creek Falls day-use area
managed by Pipestem State

Park,
Carnifex Ferry Battlefield,
Cass Scenic Railroad,
Cathedral,
Chief Logan, except in the lodge and conference center,
Droop Mountain Battlefield,
Fairfax Stone Historic Monument,
Little Beaver,
Pinnacle Rock,
~~Point Pleasant Battle Monument~~, Tu-Endie-Wei,
Prickett's Fort,
Valley Falls, and
Watters Smith Memorial, the Greenbrier River Trail and the North Bend Rail Trail;
in the following vacation parks:
Audra, except in reserved picnic shelters;
Babcock,
Camp Creek,
Moncove Lake,
Tomlinson Run, except in reserved picnic shelters,
Bluestone State Park, in all boat launch ramp parking areas and all camping areas within its boundaries,
Beech Fork State Park, in all camping areas within its boundaries, and
Hawks Nest State Park, except the lodge and Hawks Nest golf course which is operated as part of Hawks Nest State Park;

in all state forests, which include:
Cabwaylingo,
Calvin Price,
Camp Creek,
Coopers Rock,
Greenbrier,
Kanawha,
Kumbrabow,
Panther, and
Seneca;

~~in recreation areas within the following state wildlife management areas:~~
~~Berwind Lake,~~
~~Big Ditch Lake,~~
~~Bluestone,~~
~~Laurel Lake,~~
~~Pleasant Creek,~~
~~Plum Orchard Lake, and~~
~~Teter Creek Lake,~~
in the following wildlife management areas,
Berwind Lake,
Bluestone,
Laurel Lake, and
Plum Orchard Lake,
in Recreation Areas within the following state Wildlife Management Areas which include:
Teter Creek Lake,
Big Ditch Lake,
Pleasant Creek,
Lewis Wetzel,
Sleepy Creek,
Conway Run Lake,
McClintic,
Chief Cornstalk,
Upper Mud;
and in those parts of Wildlife Management Areas and in those state park and state forest areas where they are prohibited by posted signs. ~~Provided, That any person, group or association sponsoring private party at the restaurant at Chief Logan State Park or the multi-purpose log barn at Prickett's Fort State Park may provide beer, wine, liquor and all other alcoholic beverages for guests at the private party as long as the party is not open to the general public.~~

2.22. The Director of the Division of Natural Resources is authorized to issue special use permits and enter into written agreements with persons who demonstrate to the satisfaction

of the Director that they have good cause to utilize a motor driven vehicle on the Greenbrier River Trail or the North Bend Rail Trail. The Director may also authorize persons with legitimate need to utilize motorized vehicles on the trails as authorized in subdivision 2.22.3 of this rule.

2.22.1. The Director may, upon application in writing and for good cause shown, issue a written special use permit authorizing limited use of motorized vehicles on either the North Bend Rail Trail or Greenbrier River Trail. A separate permit is required for each use. Each permit shall specify the limitation on access, including such things as the date, time not to exceed three days, place, method, and distance the applicant will be allowed to have access to the trail. As part of the permit process, the Director shall enter into a written agreement to allow the use of motorized vehicles on the trails. The agreement shall specify the limitations of the use and require, in exchange for such use, that the persons allowed to use motorized vehicles on the trails shall maintain a specified area of the trail for a specified length of time. The terms of the maintenance portion of the agreement shall depend on the length and nature of the use.

2.22.2. Good cause may be shown by (a) those persons in need of limited access to adjacent land that the applicant owns or leases for agriculture purposes and who have demonstrated no other reasonable means to gain entry to the adjacent land; (b) those persons who have a vested right of ingress to and egress from the trail and (c) those persons required by law to plug or reclaim oil or gas wells.

2.22.3. Persons with a legitimate need to use motorized vehicles on the trails are exempt from the permit requirements. A legitimate need is limited to (a) those persons who are authorized by the Director to use motorized vehicles in the management, construction, and maintenance and operation of the trails and facilities and (b) persons and equipment to fight forest fires and handle other emergencies.

2.23. Any person may be evicted from a state park, state forest, or state wildlife management area for any breach of this rule, or for the breach of any other rule which is in effect governing their use. All rentals, charges and fees are forfeited upon an eviction.

§58-31-3. Enforcement of Rules Governing Public Use of State Parks, State Forests, and Recreation Areas in State Wildlife Management Areas under the Division of Natural Resources and Penalties.

3.1. Responsibility for enforcing the rules.

Conservation Officers, Special Conservation Officers, and the superintendents, assistant superintendents and managers of state parks, state forests, and state wildlife management areas shall enforce all of the provisions of this rule.

3.2. Violation of rules and penalties.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this rule is guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished in accordance with W. Va. Code §20-7-9.

Dear John,

I would certainly stay in the state park cabins if my dogs were allowed. My dogs are clean, free of fleas and their waste is always picked up. I realize that not all ~~the~~ pet owners are responsible and I don't know how you would address that issue. ~~It~~ On another note: I've been forced to stay in a smoking room w/ my dogs. I don't smoke and neither do the dogs! HA! Hope to hear in the future that pets will be allowed. Thank you,

Sherry Stewart

307 Church St.
Lwb, WV 24901



Trisha

John L Pope - Chief DNR
c/o State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3 Rm. 713
Charleston, WV 25305

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation

Dear Sir,

I read in the Parkersburg News this morning that you were receiving comments about allowing dogs and cats in State Parks Cabins and Lodges.

I am in favor of this in the cabins. We often visit Black Water Falls State Park and stay in the cabins there. It would be much easier for us not to have to find some one to care for our dogs while we were there. Also, the cost of boarding dogs is pretty high. Several years ago, dogs were allowed to visit and we had a wonderful family vacations.

I do however think that we should be responsible for any damage that our pets might cause.

Please consider our comment when you make your decision.

Yours,
Jack and Mary Lauck
603 W3rd Street
Williamstown, WV 26187
Tel.304-375-6248

HC 67 Box 589A
Renick, WV 24966
July 21, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

We are writing to comment in favor of allowing pets in state park cabins and lodge rooms.

We have a dog who is a very special part of our family and there is nothing more heart breaking than to leave for a few days of vacation and have to leave him behind in a kennel with strangers to care for him. Even though we may enjoy our vacation, there are many thoughts of concern during our time away as to his well being.

A stay in a West Virginia state park setting would be much more enjoyable having our beloved pet share that time with us.

Thank you for your consideration in this very important proposal.

Sincerely,

Harold and Catherine Hill

340 Peters Run Road
Wheeling, WV 26003
June 29, 2005

Dear Sir,

I believe it would be very nice to be able to keep pets overnight in state park cabins and possibly lodge rooms. I think it would be especially nice for those staying in cabins.

Of course, it would depend on the behavior of the pets, as to wheter it would be a good idea. I have a pet but I don't feel she would be great in the lodge. She would bark at the sounds from the hall and the rooms until she became used to the sounds. But in the cabin, it would probably be okay.

I think the lodge rooms would be great, but have some rooms for the pets only, such as was done for smoking.

Also, the guests should be held responsible for any damage that may occur.

I don't believe the size of the pet should have anything to do with them being able to stay or not. I have two nieces who have Great Danes, and they are perfect guests for the most part.

Sincerely,

Dorothy B. Bowman

destination where my dog can accompany me.
As a "have my cake and eat it too" response to the states consideration, I will suggest that the rules be changed <u>for a few years</u> to observe the overall effect, then make a more permanent rule change - or revert back to the present rules. [I think this has been done already?]
One major qualifier in allowing pets should be <u>a size</u>, or <u>weight limit</u>.
The state has the right to set such limitations in the greater interest of the public sense of tranquility - which is integral to the price of being a park guest.

Thank you, and good luck,

Jim Shawver
405 Oakwood Ave
Williamstown WV
26187

June 29, 2005

Please consider allowing pets in your lodge & cabins in WV state parks. I would definitely VISIT your parks IF I could bring my dog - as it is, we go online & seek out places that allow dogs (& many places now do).

Thank you

Piccola Bloomingdale
631 Central Ave
Wmstn, WV 26187

7-2-05

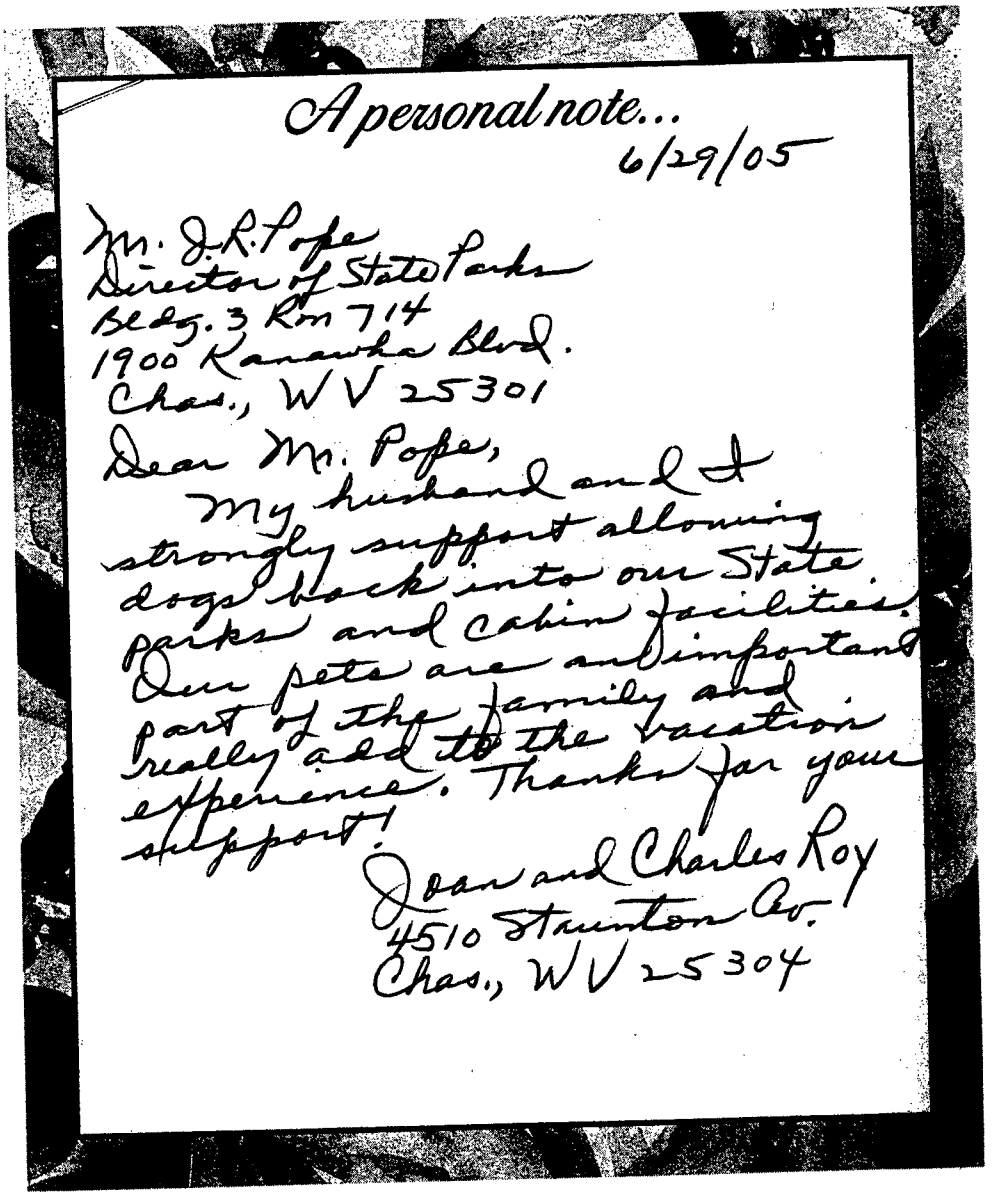
Dear Mr Pope,

If you assign certain cabins/rooms for dogs/cats just like you do for smokers, I would say ok. Otherwise I say no. I have asthma & other allergies.

My husband & I do go to WV State parks often (Senior flings, picnics & other events) It would make a difference to us what you do.

Sincerely

Joan K. Mischler



A personal note...

6/29/05

Mr. J.R. Pope
Director of State Parks
Bldg. 3 Rm 714
1900 Kanawha Blvd.
Chas., WV 25301

Dear Mr. Pope,

My husband and I strongly support allowing dogs back into our State parks and cabin facilities. Our pets are an important part of the family and really add to the vacation experience. Thanks for your support!

Joan and Charles Roy
4510 Staunton Ave.
Chas., WV 25304

John R. Pope, Chief
WV State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

We belong to the VIPP Program and enjoy our state parks.

One reason we do not stay overnight at our state parks is that we cannot bring our small 10lb. maltese dog due to the restriction on pets.

We love the old houses at Cass and can only stay there when we have someone else take care of our pet.

We would like to be able to stay in the park cabins if we could bring our pet, however when we have our baby with us we must stay at a place that allows pets.

We believe our state parks are great and would like to spend more time discovering what is special about each.

Holly River is our favorite.

We love to hike and would like to stay longer at the state parks and see all the trails.

Please allow pets in our state park cabins & lodge rooms so we can

P.O. Box 1282
Charleston, WV
25325-1282

CHARLESTON WV 253
PM
03 JUL
2005

John R. Pope, Chief
WV State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

25305/0009



Keefer
170 Woodland Forest
Winfield, WV 25213

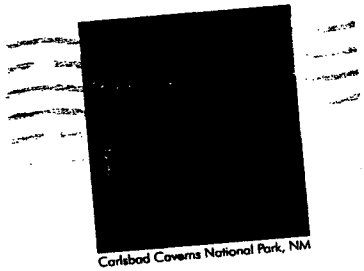


John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

25305/0003

P.O. Box 1651
Shepherdstown, W.V.
25443

MARTINSBURG WV 254
PM
JUN
2005



John R. Pope, Chief
D.N.R. Park & Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, W.V. 25305

Miss Beverly Emery
411 N 8th St
Clarksburg, WV 26301



John R. Pope, Chief
WV State Park
Attn. Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3, Rm 713
Charleston, WV 25305

July 5, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear JR,

We've been meaning to write to you regarding this topic for a long time, but just had not gotten around to it. But when the notice came out inviting public comments about pets in cabins and lodges of the state parks we wanted to be sure our view is expressed.

Although we do not live in West Virginia, much of our family does and we enjoy vacationing there. In fact, we love it so much, we make a point of it several times per year. However, we don't spend as much time vacationing within the state parks due to the pet restrictions. We have a dog we like to travel with and we do camp some since we can bring him, but we also enjoy staying in cabins or lodges within the state parks. Since we cannot bring our pet to the cabins or lodges, we look for other accommodations, or we sometimes opt to stay home instead of boarding our pet for the weekend. We have several other family and friends who are in the same situation (some who do not camp even) and we have often had conversation about how nice it would be if the state parks allowed pets in the cabins (at least). We would all definitely visit the state parks more if we could bring our pets.

Realizing irresponsible pet owners are a main concern we would suggest a pet deposit be required of those patrons bringing pets. We recommend part of the deposit be refundable if the room or cabin were in the same condition as when the patrons arrived; this would encourage people to clean up after their pets and help to minimize damage to furniture and landscape. A $100 pet deposit is fair in our estimation, with $75 being refunded if the patrons are responsible in their stay. Here are some other suggestions:

- Pet walking areas where people can take their pets to do their business
- "Pet" rooms designated for pets (akin to smoking and non-smoking); near side or back entrances and away from main areas for reasons of noise and convenience for walking, etc.
- Waste receptacles and "do-do bags" throughout the park to encourage clean up.
- Fining of individuals who do not clean up after their pets outside of the designated pet areas

With more and more people traveling with pets as part of the family, it seems a significant piece of revenue is going to places that are pet friendly when it could be going to our state parks. Minimally we would like to see the cabins opened up for pets, but would love it if lodge rooms were also available.

Thank you for your consideration of this topic.

Sincerely,

Craig Cribbs Jamie Copenhaver-Cribbs

Craig and Jamie Copenhaver Cribbs

Because of health & cleanliness issues, I would only be in favor of pets in designated cabins, not in all cabins.

658-4224 Katherine Hoffman
PO Box 158
Victor, WV 25938

DEAR MR. POPE

I AM WRITING CONCERING THE PUBLIC OPINION ON LETTING DOGS STAY IN THE STATE PARK CABINS. WE USED TO RENT A CABIN EVERY YEAR FOR 3 TO 5 DAYS. THEN CAME A DOG INTO OUR HOME AND NOW WE GO TO TENNESEE. WE CAN ALWAYS TAKE OUR DOG WITH US TO THE CABINS THERE. WE ALSO GO TO MRYTLE BEACH WHERE ARE DOG IS ALSO WELCOME. WE ALMOST ALWAYS HAVE TO PAY EXTRA FOR THE DOG { $5.00 TO $9.00} OR MAKE A REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IF THERE IS NO MESS WE GET OUR DEPOSIT BACK . WE ALWAYS TRAVEL WITH OUR DOG WHO WEIGHTS ABOUT 50LBS AND IS WELL MANNERED. HOPE TO BE STAYING IN THE STATE PARK CABINS AGAIN VERY SOON.

I VOTE YES.

THANK YOU

KATHY OFNER

FOREVER FRIENDS FOREVER FRIENDS

Betty Serreno-Morales
307 E. Prince St.
Beckley, WV 25801-4058

We have no objection to pets being allowed in Parks & Lodges to responsible pet owners. With provision that owners clean up after their pets, take the responsibility to properly train & care for pets, as they should their children; pets can be a welcome addition to any situation.



PUBLIC COMMENTS RECEIVED

I am for allowing pets in cabins + lodge rooms.

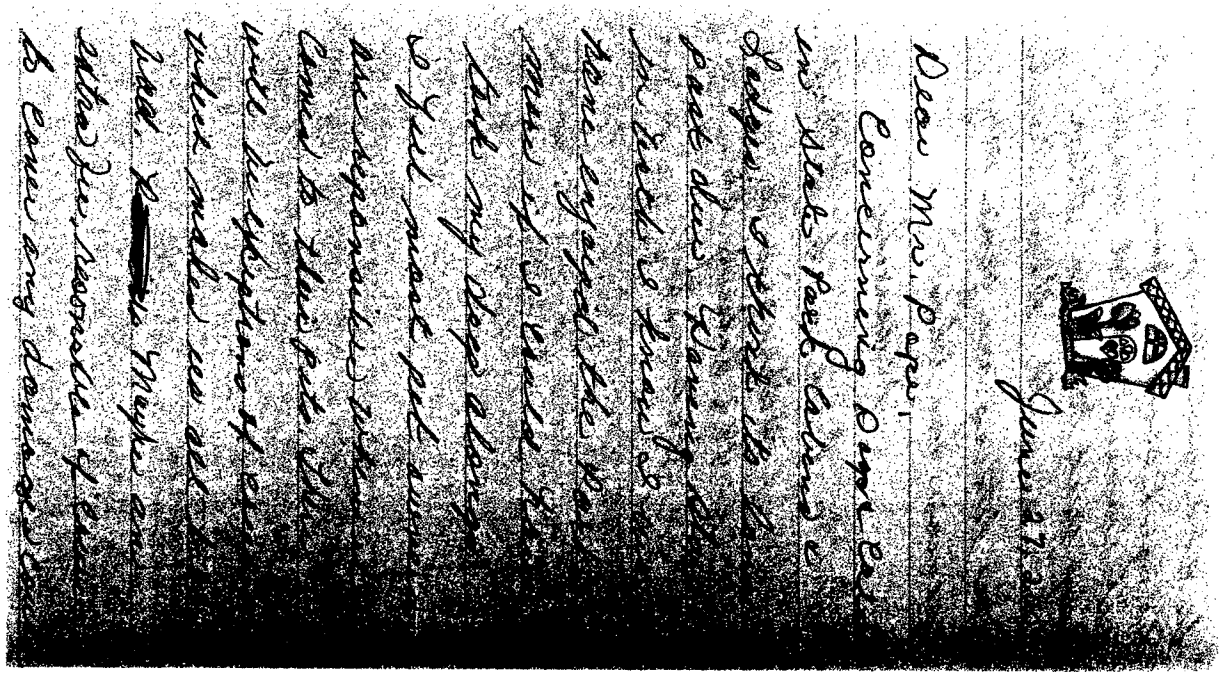
Thank you,
Gayle Berry

Form No. PSCRATCHOH2 3/95

Eleanor S. Gilbert
192 Liberty St.
Salem, WV 26426



John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3 Room 713
25305-0449



Rt 1 Box 407
Ripley WV 25271
June 27, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
State Capitol Complex
Building 3 Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

Concerning: PETS

As long as I am allowed to smoke in certain lodge rooms or cabins I think the same privilege should be considered for pet owners.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Cathleen G Rhodes

Linda Ramsdell
244 Woodside Drive
Berkeley Springs, West Virginia 25411
304-258-1830
Llramsdelll@aol.com

June 27, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am greatly in favor of allowing overnight park guests to keep pets in state park cabins and lodge rooms. My well-behaved and well-trained German Shepherd and I love to spend our time exploring beautiful landscapes and hiking in the great outdoors. Opening up state park lodgings to us would greatly increase our options and enhance the experience.

Opponents to this change should be assured that uncivilized canine guests would be handled in the same manner as uncivilized human guests.

Thank you for your assistance in making this change in policy.

Sincerely,

Linda Ramsdell and Caleb

04/24/05

John Pope
Chief of WV. State Parks
Bldg. 3 Rm 713
State Capital
Chas. WV. 25305

John, (being a senior lady may I address you by first name?) I'm writing in response to the article ---"Public weighs in on pets in parks" which Therese Cox wrote about in the newspaper recently. I'm amazed that this subject has been on 'the back burner' so very long.

Many years ago (by now) , we always vacationed in our wonderful WV. Loving to go to Cacapon St. Park.....usually with our dog "King". Later in life, we chose wonderful and wild Kumbrabow State Forest for our hunting trips, including our son and family (another cabin) with their dog, us with our two. No problem! Problem was.....intoxicated hunters in other cabins being loud, hunting with their 'flask'. Etc. etc.

Years passed and, I wanted to return for 'memories' and to have some family join me, + my doggie. No way! They told me, that pets had been banned from all parks except camping out places. That, doesn't appeal to seniors unless with an RV etc. we tried it by tenting and packed up and left due to loud 'neighbors and all night 'roaming'.

I phoned your Dept. years ago, and not too long ago about the fact that your Dept. needed financial support. I suggested adding a charge (deposit) and allowing no more than two pets per cabin, and care-cages at the lodge, didn't do any good of course. So, I ask again, to allow pets and keep families here in WV. Instead of going to other states to vacation that permits pets. I am 80 now, and, my two loving canines are older and well behaved. I would love to return to Kumbrabow even for several days, or, Cacapon, even others that are nearer Chas. Area.

Here's hoping you'll use your influence with our Law-Makers, and give we the pet owners and true West Virginians a new law that will make money for your Dept. Permit Pets In State Parks (controlled, on leases and strict clean up procedures!) You'll gain much.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Mildred (Millie) Cavender
5345 Koontz Drive
Cross Lanes, WV. 25313
776-1616

Millie Cavender and Family

6/26/05

Dear John R. Pope

We travel extensively to state parks and since we must travel with a small dog, we think it would be great if pets were allowed in the state park cabins and lodges even if there is an additional charge for the pets.
Whenever we plan an overnight trip we have to go only to parks that are near hotels that allow pets. Many parks that we would like to go to - we can't because of the no pet policy at the cabins and lodges.
Thank you for considering the change in the pet policy

Sincerely
Hanne + Mark
Drimak



June 24, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Pets

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of pets in state park cabins. I love to stay in your cabins. I can not afford to board my dog to do it. I am retired and on a fixed income.

Sincerely,
Irene K Douglas + Corbie.

Irene Douglas
HC 70 Box 100-4
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24801



A NOTE FROM

Lois M. Hall

John R Pope Chief.
W.V. State Park.
attn. Public Comment RE Pets.

In regards to Pets in W.V. State Parks, Cabins & lodge rooms.
Yes they should be allowed.

Thank you
Lois & Gary Hall

Yes allow pets in cabins and rooms - However - very strict rules must be followed -

Pets on leash at all times

Clean up of all waste every time pets use yards or anywhere in park. (plastic waste bags to be carried wherever pets are out)

Any damage done to rooms or yards - big fines!!

Pets off leash - big fine!!

If we don't have enough staff to enforce rules and make them work - don't permit pets.

Carolyn Junkins
P.O. Box 1597
Princeton, WV 24740

June 23, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Pets

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of pets in state park cabins. I feel my dogs are better behaved than a lot of children & adults I have seen at your State Parks.

Sincerely,

Rowena Harman & Jake 7/8/05

Rowena Harman
HC 70 Box 100-3
White Sulphur Springs
West Virginia 24986

June 23, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Pets

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of pets in state park cabins. As a native West Virginia I have traveled to other state parks and have been allow having my dogs. I think this would be a great change in our park system.

Sincerely,

Dianne Warren & Toby J

Dianne Warren
HC 70 Box 100-3
White Sulphur Springs
West Virginia 24986

June 23, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

To: Trioip

RECEIVED
JUN 2 4 2005
PARKS & RECREATION
CHIEF'S OFFICE

Re: Pets

Dear Sir:

I am in favor of pets in state park cabins. I feel I would be able to use the parks around me if my dog were allowed to stay in the cabins.

Sincerely,

Donna Chinsolo

Donna Chinsolo
961 Magnolia Ave.
Welch, WV 24801

county to honor our committment to one another. It would be great to bring my constant companion with me in the years we have to come to the park.

I do hope & pray you allow pets in the parks again. It would be such a pleasure to share the park experience once again!

Sincerely,

Wanda S. Mapes
VIPP

June 22, 2005

Mr. Pope,

My family have been going to Watoga State Park since 1959 regularly. We have visited all the State Parks through the years. Always, the other member of our family accompanied us - our pet dog - until the Park service banned pets. It has been very sad to leave our dog behind, and have to have the vet board him.

My husband & I spent every wedding anniversary at the park. Since his death in 1997, I go by myself each September to Pocahontas

Wendy K. Davis
5400 McAnnulty Rd., #1
Pittsburgh, PA 15236
(412) 650-9050

RECEIVED
JUN 2 4 2005
PARKS & RECREATION
CHIEF'S OFFICE

June 22, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

RE: Pets

I am writing in regard to the possible legislation that would permit pets in overnight facilities. I am in favor of this legislation. For guests that do not camp and have pets, this would be an option for them. Many people do not want to leave their pets at home or in a kennel, therefore they only can go to the very few places that allow pets.

I believe this legislation would bring in many, many people to the West Virginia parks. As for myself, I enjoy camping in the campgrounds which do allow pets, but this legislation would add another option for us. Since we live in Pennsylvania, we visit West Virginia often. Currently, Pennsylvania is only allowing pets in a few limited campgrounds throughout the state. This, I believe, forces people to other states where pets are allowed. Adding this option would only encourage more people to come to your parks.

Please consider this legislation. I believe it could only benefit your state.

Thank you,

Wendy K. Davis

Wendy Davis
5400 McAnnulty Rd., #1
Pittsburgh, PA 15236
(412) 650-9050

June 21, 2005

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in regards to the Card I received about permitting pets (dogs and or cats) in state park Cabins and possibly in lodge rooms

I am in favor of this as we camp in state parks and have a dog. We camp in a tent. But as we are getting older it would be good to be able to rent a Cabin.

Thank you

Mr. + Mrs. James K. Ward
214 Price Farm Rd.
Summersville, WV 26651

June 21, 2005

John R. Pope
DNR Parks & Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3 Rm. 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

My kids used to use beds for trampolines, drop potato chip and cookie crumbs on the floor, spill kool aid on the carpet, turn the TV up too loud, etc. My less than 20 pound pets do none of these things, nor do they smoke or leave cigarette burns on furniture tops and carpet. They are house broken and well mannered. I can't tell you the number of times that my wife and I have wanted to go to Blackwater Falls, Pipestem, etc. but have chosen different sites because of the state policy relative to pets. I would be most appreciative if designated rooms or cabins were available at each of the state's beautiful parks for pet owners.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce

Bruce Goody
Rt. 1 9 DeMoor Addition
Washington, WV 26181

6-21-05

Dear Mr Pope,

As VIPP members we suggest that since many guests are allergic to pet dander, this means more cleaning of rooms by overworked personell. A few cabins could be designated for pet visitations, but not the lodge.

Rules should be enforced to pick up dog litter from the grounds outside cabins. Many pet owners say they do this, but in my lifetime I have seen NO one do this, besides myself!!

Sincerely,

Ed and Glen Griffin
126 Garfield Rd
Clarksburg WV 26301-4210

John R. Pope –

May we suggest putting pets in our ~~state~~ park cabins and resorts lodges in only designated ones. I, like many other people, have an allergy to animal dander!

Truly yours

Kenneth and Janet Michael
and Chessie Elkins



June 21, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope
Chief, WVDNR Parks and Recreation
Capital Complex, Building 3, Rm. 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

I support allowing visitors with pets staying in WV park lodging. I enjoy traveling with my two dogs, and although I can stay in the Virginia parks, I can't enjoy the West Virginia parks in the same way. I think West Virginia has some great facilities and I would really like to utilize them, but I like having my pets with me. I think it should be a requirement that the dogs be kept under control at all times and walked on a lease in the areas of lodges and cabins. I've never been annoyed by another visitors pet, although I have been annoyed by noisy visitors and misbehaving children. I think allowing pets would enhance the use of West Virginia parks and I support the idea.

Sincerely,

Anne Henderson
67 O'Connor Lane
Martinsburg, WV 25401

Mr. & Mrs. Merl Aitken
218 Willowcrest Dr
Charleston, WV 25311





John R. Rope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn. Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

25305/0003

6-20-05

John,

Why not do the pet issue as you have done Smoking - Non Smoking? Set aside a number of rooms for pet / no pet.

Long time state park frequent users!

Margaret + Merl Aitken

6/20/05

Dear Mr. Pope:

I would definitely recommend allowing guests to have pets in the Cabins at State Parks.

I believe some Consideration should be given to the Lodges. I'm not sure this would be advisable, Unless it was Very small quiet Animals.

I Visit the State Parks quite often and am a VIPP Member.

Thanks for allowing the public to Comment on this.

Sincerely,

Frances Bailes
Rt. 1, Box 168
Buffalo, WV
25033

6-17-05

Dear Mr. Pope,

My daughters and I have a small poodle and we would love to stay from time to time in our States Park cottages.

Please, We encourage you to rule in favor of small pets staying with family for a vacation

Thank you.

Yours truly,
Ms Teddi Faber

6-17-05

Dear Mrs. Pope,

With reference to your request for public comments on pets being allowed in State Park facilities, we vote yes in cabins and a big no for lodge facilities.

Loretta and Jack Parrish
438 High St.
Spencer, W. Va.
25276

June 17, 2005

Marissa R. Garst
120 Mound Drive
Marietta, OH 45750

John R. Pope, Chief of DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am writing to urge you permit overnight state park guests to keep pet dogs and cats in cabins and lodge rooms. I am not a current WV state resident but am a WV native, and I now live in Marietta, OH right on the WV border and still often use the WV parks along with several family members who are WV residents. We are big nature lovers and almost every weekend are out in one of the many state parks for outdoor recreational activities, and we would definitely love it if we could stay the night in the park lodges or cabins for weekend getaway trips or even for week-long summer vacations but having pet dogs unfortunately keeps up from doing so.

If your cabins or lodges allowed pets to stay overnight, I know you would have a lot more business and interest in the parks. I know of several people including family, friends, and co-workers that are strongly hoping the rule changes to allow pets to stay. We even understand that a slightly higher rate may be charged for pet-friendly lodge rooms or cabins and a deposit may have to be put down to enable us to bring our pets along on overnight trips, but to true pet lovers it would be well worth it. We are responsible pet owners who always have our pets on a leash in the parks and always clean up after our well-behaved pets that we consider part of our family. I have been spreading the word, and we are all eager to bring our pets along to further enjoy the state parks!

Thank you so much for your time and attention to the matter. Please do change to the state park rule to allow pets in cabins and lodge rooms.

Sincerely,

Marissa R. Garst

Marissa R. Garst
(740) 373-7876

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2005
PARKS & RECREATION
STATE OFFICE

Tricia

June. 16-05

John R Pope.

Dear Sir.

I support the effort to allow Pet in State Parks and Trails. Of Course there would have to be a charge. But some people Pets are their family and I am sure it keeps a lot of people from enjoying the Parks & Lodgeing.

Betty & Marshall Neil
610½ Central Ave
Parma. Wa 26287

June 16, 2005

WVDNR

To Whom It May Concern:

Subject: PET FRIENDLY LODGING

I will start by addressing this issue as a pet owner. Brandy is a lovable, beautiful, 10 year old Springer who loves to camp in your state parks. Her favorite is Moncove, but as she loves to swim this year we will relocate to Watoga temporarily. She comes to work with me almost every day and is the official greeter at Comfort Inn. She loves all people and has references on her well-bred behavior. She goes to the vet regularly and does not have fleas or ticks. She does not have a bad odor or smell doggy. She does not chew on furniture. She stops at the door to have her feet wiped each time she comes inside. Most kids do not. We would love nothing more than to spend our 2 week vacation in one of your rustic cabins. (She has her eye on the one at Watoga that faces the Greenbrier.) I would have no problem paying a damage deposit for her if it is refundable upon checkout.

I am the manager at the Comfort Inn in Beckley. We have always accepted pets with a deposit and limited access. Shortly after I became the GM, in a meeting with the owner, he expressed the opinion that we needed to find our niche as the competition is so heavy at Exit 44. I told him that I already knew where our niche was. He said " You go girl."

Several years later, we have increased occupancy, revenue, and customer loyalty. Our motel opened in 1977 and with 12 newer motels here we are consistently in the top 3 or 4 at this exit. We added 2 pet cleanup stations (www.dogipot.com) and dog treats. We offer treats, have a pet picture board for our regulars, and pet sitting services. There are no restrictions or deposits and we have lots less problems from pets than from people. Pet owners reserve well in advance of travel as they know that they have to plan ahead They are generally not at all price resistant. Our rates range from 50.00-100.00 and most pet owners do not question price.

I hope you will at least give this a trial and I am confident that it will increase your revenue also.

Sincerely yours,

Regina Workman

REGINA WORKMAN
GENERAL MANAGER
COMFORT INN

June 15, 2005

Dear Mr. Pope,

My children are thrilled with the thought of taking their pets with us on trips to our state parks and recreation areas. Vacationa are for families and our pets are a important part of them.

Thank you for thinking of us.

Yours truely,

Donald R. Wade

Melodie J. O'Hanlon & Patrick J. Laughner

148 Donegal Lane, Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

June 15, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

We are writing to comment upon the possible rule change to allow pets in state park cabins and lodge rooms. We were thrilled to read of this possibility, as there have been several times in the past when we would have rented a state park cabin had it not been for the no-pets-allowed rule. Our dog is a part of our family, and, while we're not people who expect to take him everywhere, our outdoor adventures do include him.

We are avid hikers and love to camp, but sometimes a cabin is a nice alternative. Since WV state parks currently disallow pets, we've rented a privately owned cabin in Virginia and Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) cabins in Virginia and Pennsylvania. We love our state, but we've missed out on some of its state parks – Lost River, for example. We stayed there in college and have never returned because we have always been able to find private cabins in Virginia that allow dogs.

There are certainly irresponsible dog owners and other concerns, such as pet allergies, to address, but we think you will find that some hotels and other cabin rental businesses have found ways to address them. The vast majority of dog owners are responsible people, and most businesses that allow pets reserve certain rooms or cabins for them.

We think that you will find many more dollars coming to or staying in WV if you allow pets in some West Virginia cabins. Certainly, we would take full advantage of such an opportunity.

Regards,

Patrick Laughner
Melodie O'Hanlon

June 15, 2005

Comments on Pet Rule at WV State Parks

I agree:

1. Pets can be allowed in lodges + cabins But only dedicated cabins + rooms in lodge.

2. I disagree with all areas + rooms I do not want to be in a room that has hairs, etc. left behind.

3. Pets should not be allowed in places where food is served, unless w/ a blind or handicapped person.

Thanks!

Anita Hardesty
1440 Cornell Dr.
Keyser, WV 26726

June 15, 2005

Dear Mr. Pope,

We are greatly in favor of being able to take our pets to cabins and lodges with us when we visit our local state parks and recreation areas. We had a family reunion years ago and took our dog with us. If it hadn't been for these allowances our trip wouldn't have been possible.

We are pet lovers and as such make sure our pets behave and clean up after them. Most people I have spoken to about this idea agree it is a great idea. It would be the only vacation we would be able to make because we never leave our pets with kennels.

Thank you for thinking of bringing pets with us. We enjoyed doing so before.

Sincerely yours,
John & Glenda Doggett

A Note From

Doris Keller

I would like to express my approval of the plan to dedicate certain cabins as pet cabins in the state parks.

Sincerely,
Doris Jean Keller
1345 Lynnan St
Keyser WV 26726

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2005

Yours
314-8 thaw
Winton, wv 25951

John R. Hope, Atty wv State Park
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3 - Rm. 713
Charleston, wv 25305

ATTN Public Comment RE: Pets

June 15, 05

Dear Mr. Hope,

Yes, I think the patrons of our state parks should be able to bring their pets. Not lodge rooms necessarily but in the cabins. Sit cabins 2 or 3 cabins that would be used for families with pets. I have stayed at several of our parks and often see people with pets - so they're obviously among our already. Respectfully,

Margaret Hanks



Gretl Rose

Auburn and Claudia Cooper
133 Woodland Forest
Winfield, WV 25213

June 15, 2005

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2005
PARK OPERATIONS

Mr. J. R. Pope
WV State Parks
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

Recently, I learned that the WV Parks system is now considering changing the rules concerning small pets staying for a visit with the family in the cabins and/or cottage.

I would be so happy if you rule in favor of small pets staying in park area facilities.

So many households throughout our country consider their house pets a member of their family. I know that we do.

We have fond memories of our little Schnauzer, Heidi staying with us for a Holiday or vacation stay at one of your cottages.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Claudia E. Cooper
(304) 586-1081

342 South Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101
June 15, 2005

John R. Pope
Chief, DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

This letter is in response to your request for public comment concerning guests keeping dogs and cats in state park cabins.

My family and I have a reservation for a cabin at North Bend State Park from August 1-8, 2005. We have a dog which is very much a part of our family, and being able to take him with us during this week would make our vacation that much more enjoyable. He is trained and well-behaved and would pose no problem in the cabin.

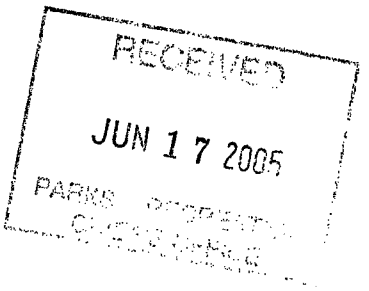
A change in the current rules concerning this matter would be most welcome.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Judy Kirkpatrick

June 15, 2005



Mr. J. R. Pope
WV State Parks
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Bldg 3 Room 713
Charleston, WV 25303

Dear Mr. Pope,

I understand that the WV Parks System is considering relaxing the rules, regarding small pets in State Parks.

I would strongly encourage allowing small pets in park areas, including cottages and cabins.

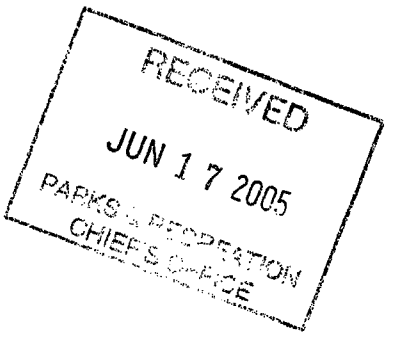
I have been prevented from using the facilities in the past years because of the prohibition of small pets.

Sincerely,

Myrtle E. Butcher

Mrs. M. Ellen Butcher
316 Highland Ave.
So. Chas, WV 25303

Circle "M" Pet Motel
Route 3 Box 197
Philippi WV 26416
304 457-2275
304 457-5802 fax
circlempetmotel.com



June 14, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
Capitol Complex
Building 3 Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope

Re: No-pets rule at state park lodging

We own and operate a boarding, training, and grooming facility. I am aware of the concerns of animals in public facilities; however, many pet owners are very responsible. I agree with Hoy Murphy in that West Virginia is losing money due to people not being able to travel with their pets. Many places don't even allow pets to be walked to 'go potty' (in open fields and wooded areas!). I feel there should be designated cabins and lodge rooms for pet owners. Crates (which are inexpensive) could be provided in the designated rooms.

Sincerely

Randall & Judy McCauley

Randall and Judy McCauley

To: John R. Pope 6-13-05
Chief DNR Parks & Recreation
State Capitol Complex Building 3
Room 713
Charleston, WV. 25305

From: Mandy, James, Maggie Tenney & "Wishes"
P.O. Box 1009
Buckhannon, W.Va. 26201

In Re: allowance of dogs or cats in state park cabins

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am writting in regards to allowing dogs and/or cats in State Park lodges and cabins. I think it is a great idea! Cats and dogs are a very important part of some families.

My cat Wishes likes to camp out in the backyard in a tent with our family. She likes everyone in the tent together and the campfire.

We are going to move out of West Virginia within a year and will return to West Virginia state parks and rent a cabin. Having Wishes with us will be great.

Please consider allowing it. Most people who come for vacations to W.Va. and rent cabins are very responsible pet owners and the pets are well behaved and litter trained or housebroken.

Thank You for your consideration,

Mandy James Maggie & "Wishes"

June 12, 2005

John R. Pope
Chief, DNR Parks & Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Bldg 3, Rm 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Sir:

My vote is to allow pets in state park cabins, at least on a trail basis. If this privilege is abused then remove it. Some considerations might be: (1) Limit size of dogs to a maximum size, (2) charge pet fee for those renting a cabin with a pet, (3) security deposit for pets, (4) provide "poopie" bags, gloves and receptacle to be used, and (5) designate certain number of cabins as pet friendly.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Long, COL/USA/RET
302 Church St.
Lewisburg, WV 24901

10844 Downsville Pike
Apt.22
Hagerstown, MD 21740

June 12, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
Capitol Complex, Building 3
Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

I read the article in the Hagerstown, MD, Daily Mail that The Division of Natural Resources of WV is considering changing the rule regarding No Pets Allowed in State Parks. I hope the rule is changed to allow pets in cabins! My family has been spending Thanksgiving in WV State Parks for about 50 years; for the past 10 to 15 years, we have been going to Cacapon State Park, south of Berkeley Springs. The last couple of years, my nephew and his wife could not join us because they have a dog and did not want to travel, and leave the dog behind. The Park Regulations say no pets allowed, so they couldn't bring their dog with them. I hope the rule is changed so my nephew, his wife and their dog can join us for Thanksgiving! Thank you!

Sincerely,

Julie Miller

Julie Miller

P.S. The e-mail address, parkswestvirginia.com, is not a valid address. I attempted to send my letter, several times, and it would not go through.

From: Mary Wood
To: John R. Pope
Subject: Pets in parks

We think the dedicating of certain cabins as pet cabins is a great idea.

Thank You Mary Wood & Scott Wilson

Mary Wood Scott Wilson

6/11/05

June 10, 2005

John R. Pope, chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

RE: Proposal to allow pets in State Parks Cabins

Dear Mr. Pope:

I would like to consent **TO** the proposal to allow pets in State Parks Cabins and in a few assigned rooms at each Lodge. While I realize not ALL pet owners are responsible with regard to pet cleanup, far more are responsible about their pets and respectful of surrounding persons.

Thank you for consideration of my opinion.

Constance Duffey

Constance Duffey
5224 Herold Rd.
Sutton, WV 26601

Ms. Patricia Sayre
239 Leander Ln.
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Mr. Pope:

I think it would be a great idea to permit overnight park guests to keep their dogs and cats in state park cabins and lodge rooms. So many people now travel with their animals that this would be very helpful to them and our state needs to be animal friendly. Of course some type of arrangements would need to be made if damage occur.

Sincerely - Pat Sayre



June 10, 2005

John R. Pope
Chief, DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Allowing pets in State Park cabins and rooms

Dear Sir,

I am in favor of allowing visitors to the state parks keep their pets in the rooms and cabins. Having pets is a reason I have not been able to utilize the state parks more often.

However, I can also appreciate the problem this could cause for people who have allergies to pets or those who just do not want a room the has been previously occupied by someone's furry family member.

Perhaps a block of rooms could be reserved for those who want the "pet option", just as is currently done for those who are smokers or handicapped. Along with the pet option rooms, the lodges would have to include a pet area nearby. The pet owners could be encouraged to be responsible for their animals, by offering disposal bags at a station.

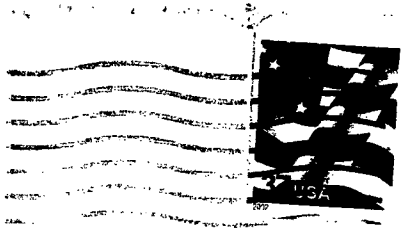
Hopefully, more people will take advantage of the fine park system in this state if this rule change is put into effect.

Sincerely,

R. Kam Jeffries

Carolyn Healy
20 Hudson Street
Berkeley Springs, WVA 25411





John R. Pope
Chief, DNR Parks & Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WVA 25305

3817 Windom Pl. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20016
June 10,2005

Mr. J.R. Pope
WV State Parks and Recreation
State Capital Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Mr. Pope,

My family quit coming to the WV State Parks when pets were no longer allowed in the cabins. I want to express my hope that that policy will be reversed so my family can again attend the parks. We would be more than willing to pay a deposit in case of damages in order to bring our pets.

Sincerely,

Mrs Jane J Whitaker

Mrs. Jane J. Whitaker

HUNTINGTON
Hall of
FRAMES

450 Fifth Avenue Huntington, WV 25701 (304) 523-3682

June 9, 2005

John R. Pope, chief of DNR Parks and Recreation
Capitol Complex, Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am writing to you today to ask that you seriously consider allowing pets in state park cabins.

I am a great fan of the state park system. I have traveled throughout the country, and there is no doubt that we have perhaps the best systems of parks, lodges and cabins available. Unfortunately, I frequently am referring visitors from other states to private real estate companies because they prefer to vacation with their pets.

And I have been seeking these private cabins out myself since I became a pet owner. In most cases, I prefer this to boarding a pet for a vacation. I am fairly certain that allowing pets would open up a whole new group of park users. This group of people is used to paying a damage deposit, and would be anxious to pay for any damage caused by a pet, just as they would at home. The reason for this is that most pet owners are responsible, in my experience more responsible for the behavior of their pets than the parents of small children are about damages.

I am convinced that the incidents of damage would be rare and of little consequence. It might be useful to have a policy that allows someone to be removed for the behavior of pets, just as they would be if the people in the party were misbehaving.

Perhaps rather than a damage deposit, it might be useful to simply set a higher rate for occupancy by people with pets.

However it works out, I hope you can find a way to make it possible to bring pets on vacation in West Virginia's State Parks.

Thanks for taking the time to ask.

Yours truly,

Gregory K. Norris

June 8, 2005

To: John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Please allow overnight park guests in state park cabins and in lodge rooms to keep dogs and cats. WV State Parks are great, but we just don't come since we can't include our pets.

Hubert D. Dye, Jr.

Hubert D. Dye, Jr.
602 Cherry Avenue
Williamstown, WV 26187

06/08/05

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks & Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, Rm 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Yes, Yes, Yes to allowing pets (dogs & cats), in state park cabins and lodging. OTHER LODGING BUSINESSES have handled this request SUCCESSFULLY, for many years. Don't try to make a new mousetrap, just follow their lead. Lodgers would have to agree IN WRITING, to be responsible for damages and provide a deposit. Lodgers would need to follow specific rules ie. pets must be kept on a leash, have current vaccinations, no pet left unattended in room unless in pet carrier, clean up feces, do not flush cat litter down the commode and no tying pet outside including to trees or porch railings. The state park will need to protect young tree trunks from dog urine, by covering trunks with flex pipe, about 12" from the ground up. You will also need to provide containers along a "walking trail" for disposal of animal waste and inspect rooms or cabins daily. These things I've listed are familiar and accepted by pet owners that travel with their pets.

I have turned down lodging at state parks because I could not take my pet. I have discouraged others from using state park lodging, infavor of lodging where my pet would be welcome. My siblings and I have repeatedly chosen non state park lodging, for family gatherings with our elderly parents, because they enjoy vacationing with pets.

We Baby Boomers are increasing in numbers, we have disposable income and suffer from empty nests. Our pets are our "family members." We are the generation that has set traditions. The places that we meet as a family, set the pattern for where our children visit and where they will take their children. After 9/11, we are back to more families trying to find a safe place to vacation with their families and start traditions. Therein lies 2-3 generations of customers, as we are creatures of habit and tend to go back to familiar places. When we get time off from our jobs, caregiving responsibilities and enter retirement, **WE WILL BE TRAVELING WITH OUR PETS.....the question is.....DOES WV STATE PARKS WANT OUR BUSINESS?**

Thank you,

Mary Kyer

Mary Kyer
HC 70, Box 100-6
White Sulphur Springs, WV 24986

E mail: 2jek@ntelos.net
Phone: 536-1878

June 7, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

I was very glad to see that you are considering allowing pets into state park lodging.

We used to spend vacations at WV state parks BECAUSE you did allow pets. We have not been to a state park since you stopped this. When we want to spend time in West Virginia on a vacation now, we rent from a privately owned complex that DOES allow pets.

We have a very well behaved small dog, and we do not leave him in a kennel to vacation. He does not damage property, does not chew furniture. He is part of our family, and I believe that many other people feel the same.

Please allow pets back into state park cabins!!! We love the state parks but will not be staying in one until you allow pets again.

Thomas R. and Susan Stowers
#14 Bette Lane
Hurricane WV 25526

June 7, 2005

Dear Sir,

I am "for" allowing overnight park guests to keep dogs and cats in state park cabins and lodge rooms. Our family reunion is next month and a yearly event including over one hundred guests. We have considered renting cabins and using state park lodging if only we could include our best friends, our "pets". We are responsible animal owners that control and clean up after them.

Please allow us to travel our beautiful state and enjoy our state parks with our whole family.

Sincerely,

Sharon Dye
602 Cherry Avenue
Williamstown, WV 26187

6-4-05

ATTN: John R. Pope

IT would be very nice if you Could dedicate some cabins for pet owners. This past winter we wanted to get away for A few days and could not find A place for pets. We wanted to keep our money IN West Virginia. IF the policy is Changed Please SEND us A list of STATE Parks That will except pets.

THank You

KAREN + TIM FRAZIER
RR1 Box 283-F
LEON WV 25123

Donna J. Acord
5005 Chesterfield Ave.
Charleston, West Virginia 25304

June 3, 2005

Mr. John Pope
Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

This is submitted, in that I understand that the Division of Natural Resources is taking public comment this month on whether to change its no-pets rule at state park lodges.

I totally support allowing pets into state park facilities. I also believe that a certain amount of ground floor lodge rooms; i.e. Five (5) should be set aside to allow for pets also. As I am single, I will not stay in a cabin alone.

In that I personally have not stayed at state parks because of the no-pet policy, I look forward to the day when my pet and I can utilize state park lodges and other facilities. The sooner the better!

Thank you for allowing me to comment!

Sincerely,

Donna J. Acord

Mr Pope, June 3-05

Please do consider allowing some of the cabins in our parks to be "Pet Friendly". We are dog owners & residents of Mabscott, W.V. We love our Animals & love to take them with us. It is not always easy to find "sitters". We can go to Pigeon Forge, Tenn, Nagshead, NC, Jacksonville, NC & many other places, but we cannot find a cabin or even very few motels in our State. We love places here at home such as Black Water Falls, Seneca Rocks, Spruce Knob to name a few, but there is no place to stay. Thank you for your consideration

Teresa & Andrew Sparks
P.O. Box 326
Mabscott, W.V. 25871
Ph 253-3431

RECEIVED
JUN 07 2005
PARKS & RECREATION
CHIEF'S OFFICE

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Law Enforcement Section
1900 Kanawha Boulevard East
Building 3, Room 837
Charleston WV 25305-0668
Telephone (304) 558-2784
Fax (304) 558-1170
TDD (304) 558-1439
TDD (304) 1-800-354-6087

Joe Manchin III
Governor

Frank Jezioro
Director

JRP
To: Tricia S.

Memorandum

To: J. R. Pope, Chief, Parks and Recreation

Subject: Pets in State Parks Lodges and Cabins

Date: June 3, 2005

On May 25, 2005, there was a meeting of the Director's Physically Challenged Advisory Board. During this meeting, Mr. Pete Cuffaro, Chairman of the Board, mentioned the fact that pets were not permitted in State Park facilities. He requested that Director Frank Jezioro look into this matter to see if there was any way to change the rules on this issue so that he and others could take their pets while vacationing in West Virginia.

I told him that I would pass along to the appropriate people. This memorandum is just a follow-up on his request.

If you need any additional information, please let me know.

WB Daniel

Lt. Colonel W. B. Daniel, Deputy Chief
Law Enforcement Section

cc: Director Frank Jezioro
Colonel James D. Fields, Chief, LES
Ken Caplinger, Parks and Recreation Section
Scott Warner, WRS
Jena Webb

20 Morris Ave.
Winfield, WV 25213
June 3, 2005

John R Pope
Chief of DNR Parks + Rec.
Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am writing to express my desire for a change to allow pets in cabins at state parks.

We will again have to leave our state for vacation if the no-pets rule stays the same.

If these rules are changed could you have someone inform us so that we could make reservations at one of these cabins.

Yours truly
Charles Ferrell
20 Morris Ave.
Winfield, WV 25213

Elex O. and Ruth E. Dotson
39 Meadowcrest Drive
Parkersburg, West Virginia 26104

June 3, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
Division of Natural Resources
Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

Finding a article in the June 3 issue of the Parkersburg News stating that your department was seeking public comment about a possible rule change that would permit overnight park guests to keep dogs and cats in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms caught our attention.

We have a 3 year old Boston Terrier which we take everywhere with us. We go back and forth to Florida several times a year and we take her in our hotel rooms. However, last year we rented a cabin at Tygart Lake State Park and were disappointed to learn our dog was not welcome.

As responsible pet owners we clean up after our pet and make sure she does no damage wherever she stays. We look forward to being able to take her with us should we be staying in one of West Virginia's beautiful state parks.

Yours truly,

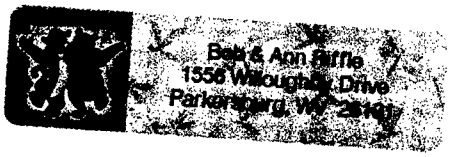
Elex O. Dotson

6/3/05

Dear Mr Pope,

I am in favor of a rule change permitting overnight park guests to keep dogs and cats in state park cabins and lodge rooms. If the major concern is damages to the rooms, a security deposit could be demanded prior to scheduling the room. This is done in hotels, condos and vacation rental homes in other states. I, myself and other family members have done so. Otherwise we would have missed a lot of beautiful places.

Please change this rule in favor of pets and those that act responsibly otherwise penalize those by withholding their ~~others~~ securities. Yours, Ann







John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks & Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

25305/0003

D M Roy
169 Tank Hill Rd
Chas WV
25312

CHARLESTON WV 25325
PM
01 JUN
2005

DNR State Parks Division
Attn: Mr J. R. Pope
Chief WVa State Parks
1900 Kanawha Blvd East
Bldg 3 Room 714
Charleston WVa
25305

25305+0003

2 June 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

FROM William and Tracy Whittington
357 Charming Lane
Bunker Hill, WV 25413

SUBJECT Allowing Pets in State Parks Lodging Rooms and Cabins

Mr. Pope,

I was delighted to receive the e-mail from Hoy Murphy concerning the opportunity for public input on whether to allow pets in state parks cabins and/or lodges. I fully support this idea. There have been many occasions where boarding our family dog was a major obstacle in staying at Canaan Valley Lodge or Cabins in Davis, W.V.

We have made that annual trek to Canaan Valley for six years and counting. We would much rather stay in one of the 2 or 3 bedroom cabins but were forced to lodge at a private rental in the nearby community due to the current pet restrictions in force at state parks.

So yes, my family and I support the idea of allowing pets in lodges and/ or cabins. I would strongly suggest and pro-rated fee (based on nightly and weekly stays) to off-set additional cleaning of these rooms/cabins. I would definitely pay an extra $10 night or $50 a week fee. Additionally, a penalty could be imposed if catastrophic damage was observed during check-out. But honestly and statistically, people who take their pets on vacations are usually more respectful of personal and private property and the associated well being of their pet.

Again, you have our full support as a West Virginia family and taxpayer for this new idea and policy change. We can be reached at 304-261-7315 if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Tracy A. Whittington
William W. Whittington

WILLIAM W. and TRACY A. WHITTINGTON

For I was thirsty and you gave me drink.
Matthew 23:35

Mr. Pope,
I am in favor of pets in the parks!!! Pet owners who take their pets on don't go are very responsible at cleaning up after them. and these people's dogs are taken care of so good (fleas ticks etc are not a problem — please allow them to go too!
Thanks

Mrs Joan Murphy

B19914

Mrs. Joan Murphy
778 4H Lake Rd
Daniels, WV 25832-9547

John R. Pope
WV State Capitol Building # 3-Room 113
Complex
Charleston, WV
25305

25305/0004

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources www.wvdnr.gov
Joe Manchin III, Governor **Frank Jezioro, Director**

News Release: June 1, 2005

Hoy Murphy, Public Information Officer (304) 558-3380 hoymurphy@wvdnr.gov
Contact: J.R. Pope, Parks and Recreation Section Chief (304) 558-2764
parks@westvirginia.com

Public Comments Requested Through July 1 For Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

The Parks and Recreation Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is seeking public comments about a possible rule change that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

Anyone wishing to comment in favor or against this proposal should send their comments to:

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Written comments will be received until July 1, 2005 at 12:00 pm

****DNR****

No pets in W.Va. park cabins or Lodge Rooms.

P.S. Why do these mailings from the D.N.R. arrive so late. This one just came on June 24. How can I make dates for the first on June?

Bobby D. Mason
2073 Nodenbousch Lane
Inwood, W.Va. 25428
304.229.8527

7/27/2005

Dear Mr Pope, I've heard Nancy mentioning this for years. People have been taking their pets with them for walking vacations. The dogs are in hotels & pubs at least to my knowledge for the past thirty years. My dog travels with me to Fla each year & I look for "pet friendly motels" Please consider letting dogs into Badger & Peek. Hopefully I will visit if I can bring my pet

Sincerely,

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sally Caraway [CarawayS@steptoe-johnson.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 1:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: poll re; dogs allowed in state parks' cabins

hello, ms. sizemore.

have you any word on the poll results and whether some parks will now allow dogs? (alice and i are eagerly awaiting notice.)

thank you.

sally caraway

****

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Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

****

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 3:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Catherine VCarpenter [mailto:nbkchis@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 2:57 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pet cabins

John Pope,

I would just like to add my comment that I think it would be a good idea to open some of the cabins in our parks to families that have pets.

Don & Catherine Carpenter

NBK Chihuahuas
Newton, WV 25266

Ready for kickoff? Sign up for Fox Fantasy Football powered by MSN. FREE to play!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sestini, Christopher [Christopher_Sestini@cable.comcast.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2005 12:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

DNR,

I agree with allowing pets in cabins but not in lodges. Cabins such as the ones at Babcock State Park are rustic and allow easy access to the outdoors. If a dog needed to be let outside to relieve itself, it wouldn't be much of a problem, as long as the owners are responsible enough to clean up after it. On the other hand, lodges such as Pipestem State Park are several stories high and use elevators and many stairs. It would certainly be an inconvenience to walk a dog down several flights of stairs every time it has to go. Also take into consideration people with allergies. Rooms would need to be kept free of pet dander. Pet allergies could really ruin somebody's good time.

Thank you,
Christopher Sestini
WV state park fan.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jeff Koerner [jeff.koerner@ozane.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2005 4:23 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a pet owner, I would strongly support the option to allow dogs in overnight accomadations. I would love the option to lodge at one of the parks but I have to look at private lodging willing to accept dogs. My family and I are actually vacationing the 2nd week of August in Bowden, WV, and Wolf Creek, WV(Both places accept dogs). If pets are accepted I can say I would seriously consider staying at a State Park on my next visit. Thanks, Jeff

Jeff Koerner
9 Oak Leaf Ln, Toms River, NJ 08755

Tricia Sizemore

From: Flounderflap@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2005 8:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i know this is late but wanted you to know that my wife and i would visit more state parks in wv if we could bring our lab. to board her is about 50.00 weekend---would like to spend it enjoying wv more than we do. thanks stephen proctor

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jjspinneremt@wmconnect.com
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2005 11:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

July 14, 2005

To whom it may concern,

I both live in West Virginia and enjoy vacationing in my beautiful home state. In fact tomorrow starts a mini 3 day vacation for my family, which includes myself, my husband, 2 daughters and my cockerspaniel. This weekend we will be staying in a 2 bedroom cabin just outside of Morgantown. Two weeks from now we have plans to spend a day at Valley Falls and a few days at Tygart Lake. We will spend both nights in local hotels that allow are 4-legged family member. I think that it is a shame that are money will support the local hotel - when I am sure our state parks could put the money to better use.

Often when we stay in a cabin we are asked for a refundable "pet deposit" I have no problem with paying such a deposit, I understand that not every pet owner is as responsible nor is every 4-legged family member as well behaved. Please, give our pets a chance!

I have one other "thought", I have not been to a facility that rents cabins to pet owners that reserves one cabin as "pet free." Being in the medical field and having a close friend that is allergic to animal dander, I would recommend keeping a cabin at each facility as "pet free."

Sincerely,
Jessie Jones

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jordan, William J [william.j.jordan@lmco.com]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 10:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would most definitely be in favor of allowing visitors to bring pets to the cabins at our WV State Parks.

Thank you,
Bill Jordan

William J. Jordan

Database Architect – LMIT
304-333-5630
william.j.jordan@lmco.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patricia Wilson [PWilson@baileyglasser.com]

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 12:02 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

As a dog owner I would like to see cabins and lodge rooms available for pets too! My dog is well trained and not a problem. However, I do think there should be some guidelines:

1) Must have proof of record that shots are up-to-date
2) No vicious animals allowed that would endanger the public
3) Maybe certain cabins and lodge rooms be designated for pet owners so as not to cause problems with persons with allergies to cats and/or dogs

My family visits state parks frequently and would love to be able to take our dog instead of boarding her.

This is a great idea and could be worked out both for the pros and cons.

Thanks for allowing the public to comment.

Pat

Tricia Sizemore

From: VernaPFlorida@aol.com

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 12:06 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

AS A SENIOR CITIZEN COUPLE FROM SARASOTA FL, WE HAD THE PLEASURE OF STAYING AT HAWKS NEST IN EARLY MAY OF 2005. IT WAS A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE AS MY WIFE IS HANDICAPPED AND THE ROOM AND ACCESS WAS GREAT TO ALL OF YOUR FACILITIES, THE ONLY THING THAT WOULD HAVE MADE IT BETTER WAS IF WE COULD HAVE HAD "MAX", OUR 7 YR OLD COCKER WITH US. WE HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR 41 YEARS AND ALL OF OUR LIFE WE HAVE HAD DOGS, WE HAVE NOT STAYED AT MANY PLACES OVER OUR LIFE TIME BECAUSE OF THE RESTRICTIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN PLACED ON TRAVELING WITH ANIMALS. WE HAVE STAYED AT MANY HOTEL OVER THE YEARS THAT I AM SURE THE "ANIMALS" HAVE BEEN MUCH CLEANER AND NICER THAN THE HUMANS THAT PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED THE ROOMS.
I WAS RAISED JUST ACROSS THE WVA LINE IN COVINGTON VA AND WE COME TO THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC AREA OF THE COUNTRY AT LEAST TWICE A YEAR, WE ARE PLANNING TO STAY WITH YOU AGAIN IN EITHER NOVEMBER OR MAY OF NEXT YEAR. I CAN ONLY SAY THAT IT WOULD BE GREAT IF THE THIRD MEMBER OF OUR "FAMILY" COULD SHARE THAT TIME WITH US.
THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PASS OUR FEELINGS ON TO YOU IN REGARD TO THIS MATTER.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lynda Davis-Logan [GeneaBug@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 2:18 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hope it's not too late to comment as you still have this on your website in the newsletter.

We feel that pets should be allowed as long as people follwo the rules and clean up after themselves and their pets.

Thanks for allowing the public to comment.

Lynda and Ed Logan
Ona, WV
304-733-9553

Tricia Sizemore

From: Pam Haynes [phaynes@tourism.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 4:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Pets – cats and dogs – should be permitted in state parks with specific considerations as follows:

1. Every pet – including cats – must be on a least at all times the animal is outside of the room/cabin/lodge, etc.

2. A separate, non-refundable "fee" (not termed a deposit) should be added to the reservation, regardless of whether there was damage by the pet. The fee should go into a special account earmarked for special cleaning/maintenance of the "pets rooms".

3. Separate rooms/cabins/lodges should be designated "pet friendly" – for instance, the remainder of the rooms should be designated "non-pet rooms" – similar to how non-smoking rooms are handled.

4. Another "rule/law" should be implemented that states if a visitor/renter brings a pet into a "non-pet room" without the knowledge of WVSP, and upon check out, it is determined a pet stayed in a non-pet room, then the regular non-refundable fee – plus a "fine" of a certain sum – should be added to the visitor/renter's bill. This is similar to signs I have seen at hotels relating to non-smoking rooms. If a visitor smokes in a non-smoking room, a "cleaning fee" is then added to that person's bill/charge card – even if they have already departed the premises.

5. And lastly, there should likely be some consideration about types of pets that are typically considered dangerous – for instance, should all dogs be allowed regardless of breed, or should dogs that are known to be aggressive and dangerous be disallowed?

Pam Haynes
Director, West Virginia Film Office
c/o WV Division of Tourism
90 MacCorkle Avenue SW
South Charleston, WV 25303
304.558.2200, x-382
1.800.CALL.WVA, x-382 (toll free)
304.558.1662 (fax)
304.550.1871 (mobile)
phaynes@callwva.com
www.wvfilm.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bill & Rose Hensley [billybh@newwave.net]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 4:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am in favor of allowing pets in state parks providing they are house broken, flealess, and no excessive barking.

William Hensley 757 8599

Tricia Sizemore

From: WV State Parks
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 3:51 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Dogs in WVA State Parks

From: Stpat44086@aol.com [mailto:Stpat44086@aol.com]
Sent: Sat 7/16/2005 9:17 AM
To: WV State Parks
Subject: Dogs in WVA State Parks

Dear Friends,
I am sorry that this note is beyond the July 1, 2005 deadline noted in your e-Newsletter but I did not receive my Newsletter until the 15th so I hope you will still consider my remarks:

We have been coming to BlackWater Fall and Kumbrabow for so many years and I cannot remember which but we used to be allowed to bring pets to one of those Parks. This was a tremendous help to us. All our pets down through the years have been small dogs and all have been kept in the house. Whenever we go away, it is a whole family problem to get our dogs placed for the time we are away. More and more hotels and motels are allowing pets now and it would certainly make our vacation at your parks more enjoyable for us. I'm sure you could require that all dogs be tagged or have a license; be kept on a leash when outside; and be kept INSIDE the cabins at night to reduce barking and bothering the neighbors. We love coming to West Virginia each year but this would make it even better.

Thank you so much for asking.

Rev. Paul F. Smith
16550 Rock Creek Road
Thompson, OH 44086
440.298.1327

Tricia Sizemore

From: K Jeffries [kjeffries@atlanticbb.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2005 9:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think that would be wonderful. You may want to have certain cabins that are "pet friendly", or an additional deposit in case of damages. but since we consider our dogs as our "furry girls", being able to take them with us on vacation instead of having to board them would be a great thing.

Karen Jeffries
Fort Ashby, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Drema [granny3@direcway.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2005 10:10 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

With guidelines .....I think its a great idea to allow pets (dogs and cats) into cabins.

Even with a small charge I would bring my crate and my babies (dogs) to visit, that would be great.

Just remember guidelines must apply, for alls safety, ours and the pets.

Thanks,
Drema White
Wharton, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cary Ridgeway [transcriber1@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2005 3:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of this proposal. It is always enjoyable to bring the family pet along on a vacation.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Greeneyesberry@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2005 4:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I would love this. Our pets are our family. I have a Yorkie and he is so little and I hate when he can't go with us. We don't go where he is not welcome.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gordy0761@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 5:37 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I would very much like to bring my pet along when staying at the park lodges / cabins! I have often cut my stay time in half due to the fact that I have a small dog at home, and do not want to leave her with my family for over 2 days at a time. I would very much like to stay for at least a week at a time instead of a weekend. Please consider changing the rules.....

Thank You,

Tara Savilla
Rt 79 Cabin Creek Rd
PO Box 75
Eskdale, WV 25075
304-595-1584

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan [imnotallhear@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 9:11 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it would be nice allowing pets inside park cabins and lodge rooms. As I am a pet owner my self and it sure would bring more business to the State Parks in West Virginia if pet owners were allowed to bring their pets along with them.

Tricia Sizemore

From: LAURAKHAWL@cs.com
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 1:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think pets should be aloud in cabin areas as long as the owners clean up after their pets and the dogs do not bark all night and the cats are leash trained. I am not so sure about in the lodges.

Tricia Sizemore

From: I-64 Eastbound Welcome Center [i64east@tourism.state.wv.us]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 2:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hi,

I think there should be a few designated areas for visitors traveling with their pets. Especially cabin areas, some lodge rooms. Like smoking and non smoking rooms. We get a lot of visitors that do travel with pets.
Opportunity to stay in a state park that accepts visitors would be interested as for motel stays.
Pet friendly areas are welcoming for some and others don't welcome them.
Just as in some of the B&B's and Inns. Check those out some of those don't even take children as guests. They doesn't seem fair and discriminative to families that would be interested in staying.
Though there are many that do.

Just wanted to give my opinion.

Thank You,
LaDonna
I-64 eastbound tour guide

Tricia Sizemore

From: WZAC-FM Wayne Price [wzac@kvinet.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 2:33 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would like to make a comment on pets in the state park cabins, as a pet owner I would love to be able to stay in the state cabins, I never leave my two small dogs at home alone for very long at a time, they don't like to be left alone. I use to stay at Blackwater Falls Cabins untill I got my dogs, so now I stay where I can take them with me..I sure would love to be able to stay at the state parks with my dogs. Please allow those that love their pets to be able to stay in the state parks.

Thank you,

Missy Green
PO Box 834
Uneeda, WV 25205

Tricia Sizemore Reject

From: WZAC-FM Wayne Price [wzac@kvinet.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 2:45 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I love to be able to take my pets with me to the state parks. I know some pets chew and mess up a lot of things, but I have taken my to cabins in Townsend, TN and they are well behaved. I never leave my pets alone in the cabins, I take them with me where ever I go to sight see because I don't leave them alone. They are like my kids, they even sleep with us since they small dogs. Thank you for considering us pet lovers for allowing us to bring our pets to the state parks.

Thank you,
James and Kaye Watson
30 Beech Lane
Madison,WV 25130
Email k8mia@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Margaret Nava [mmnava@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 9:09 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Yes..Pets should be allowed in cabins and lodges.
Margaret

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dejaktittle@aol.com

Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 9:22 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think it would be fine to have pets stay with their owners in lodges and cabins but have designated ones for that purpose as I have very bad allergies and cannot stay in a room where pets have been even though it may have been cleaned really good.
Deloris Tittle

Tricia Sizemore

From: Steve.Ferguson@med.va.gov
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 9:49 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To: John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

Re: Pets in WV State Parks

Date: July 18, 2005

I used to enjoy visiting West Virginia's beautiful State Parks and Forests until the ban on pets was enforced. We cannot afford to get away for a weekend or vacation if we have to board our 2 dogs. Therefore, it's been many years since we've stayed rented a cabin at one of the parks.

Please reverse your policy to ban pets from the cabins. Please allow visitors to bring their pets. Many motels and hotels now allow it. We are going to the Smokey Mountains for vacation this summer and will stay in a cabin that allows us to bring our pets. If WV State Parks allowed us to do so, we would very much rather save gas money and head to Watoga or another park.

Thank you,

Steve

Steven & Tanya Ferguson
126M Riverview Rd
Fraziers Bottom, WV 25082

Tricia Sizemore

From: lmfromjorja1@wmconnect.com
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 10:45 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

we travel with a small dog..we would like to spend a week in west virginia next year but if we can't bring her we won't be able to come..my daughter and her family would also be coming and they also have a small dog

Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna Gunn [d.gunn@whitewood.net]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 3:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it would be a great idea. Pets have become part of the family, more so now than ever before. So many people travel with pets these days, but have to base their travel accommodations on places that will accept their pets. The more options there are for pet owners, the better. Even charging a fee is acceptable.

Thanks!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mandy [mandyb225@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 4:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think this is a wonderful idea! I am the proud owner of a spoiled Golden Retriever named Molly. My family and I are avid campers and love to stay in our great state of WV and see all the beauty the state parks have to offer. We always tend to look for camping areas that are pet friendly. It would be wonderful to know if we so decided to stay in a cabin or lodge room we still have the option of taking our much loved family dog.
Sincerely,
M. Brown

Tricia Sizemore

From: MANGUS, BARBARA [BMANGUS@wyattfirm.com]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 4:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

The following message is a confidential communication and may be protected by attorney-client privilege. If you believe that it has been sent to you in error, do not read it. Please reply to the sender that you received the message in error, then delete it. Thank you.

My family (Finks, Goffs and Hoblitzells) have been renting cabins in Sept. of every year for as long as I can remember. It would be my contention that dogs and cats in the cabins would be less destructive that most children and I would greatly appreciate a change in the rules on pets. I will again be bringing my mother (83) to a 4 bedroom in Sept. and would very much like to bring her dog, Bandy, which I inherited when Mom entered an assisted living facility. There was a time when you allowed pets and I have no idea why the rules were changed, but I suspect for good reason.

Please consider re-establishing the pet rules, even if you limit the size or require a clean-up rule. Also, I believe if pets are allowed in the cabins, while outside they should be required to be on a lease or tether.

Thank you and I hope if the rules change, that those of us with rentals in the fall will be advised so that I can bring Bandy.

Barbara G. Mangus, Paralegal
Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP
500 West Jefferson Street
Suite 2800
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
(502) 562-7537

Tricia Sizemore

From: Frank [fhwils@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 4:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

John R. Pope, Chief DNR Parks and Recreation

My wife and I are pleased that you are considering allowing pets in the WV parks, cabins and possibly lodge rooms. We live in Charleston and travel a dozen times or more a year on mini vacations of 300 miles or less. The VA state parks have been some of our favorite recent destinations because they not only allow pets they welcome them. Claytor Lake SP has been one of our recent favorites.

We are strongly in favor of WV accepting pets. Like many Baby Boomers the kids are gone, we love our pets and don't leave home without them. We travel often, we'd very much like to spend more time in our home state and at our state parks.

We both enjoy the WV parks and look forward to returning.

Thanks for your consideration,
Frank Wilson
708 Virginia St. W.
Charleston, WV 25302
304.342.7713

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ann Hogg [ahogg552@isp.com]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 10:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I travel a great deal with my two dogs, they are clean and well behaved, so personally I would like to be able to stay in cabins with them. Many children are noisier and more badly behaved than my dogs!

When we stay in hotels they typically charge a pet fee and sometimes a large deposit which is refundable if there is no damage. In hotels I always cover the bed with an old sheet to protect the bedding, don't use the towels or the bath for the dogs and put an old towel under their feed and water bowls to keep the carpet clean.

As for cats, I leave mine at home but I don't really see a problem if the cats are used to travelling and are clean.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:23 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: keep pets (dog and/or cats) in state parks cabins
Importance: High

-----Original Message-----
From: Meighan, Terence G. [mailto:tim1@CDC.GOV]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 2:36 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: keep pets (dog and/or cats) in state parks cabins
Importance: High

I say allow it. This is one reason my family looks for pet friendly places to stay when we visit different areas.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet Allowance

-----Original Message-----
From: chowells@larrymore.com [mailto:Chowells@larrymore.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:13 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pet Allowance

I believe that pets <u>should</u> be allowed, however.....knowing that there are some destructive pets out there, a deposit should be required to cover any damage or additional cleaning that would be required due to the pet, with an inspection made before and after the pet arrival. If no damage, deposit to be fully refunded.

Christine Howells
Assistant to L. J. Goldrich
Larrymore Organization, Inc.
757.222.9408

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: jcomm [mailto:jcomm@cebridge.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:39 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins

John R. Pope,
Chief DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

I support a rule change that would permit overnight guests to keep pets in West Virginia state park cabins and lodge rooms. Pets are often as much a member of the family as children. Like children, and adults for that matter, some pets are unruly and undisciplined, but most owners who would rent cabins and rooms are responsible and would comply with reasonable rules which would include not permitting the animal to be tied up alone outside the cabin when the owners are away; cleaning up any solid waste the animal leaves, intervening quickly and effectively in the case of barking, intimidation, or harassing wildlife, and obeying leash rules in public areas.

One of the major reasons people list for not going away on vacation is the problem of what to do with the family pet. West Virginia state park vacations are perfect destinations for families, and pets are part of the family.

Joseph J. Miller
10 Lynn Brooke Pl
Charleston, WV 25312-9521
304-744-1654
jcomm@cebridge.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state park cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Rose Sullivan [mailto:swamprosa@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:40 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in state park cabins

Please change the rules for allowing pets in state park cabins. I feel that the state park cabins are underutilized and that people like myself end up looking for private places to stay that allow dogs.
Charging people extra would be an okay thing to do. The big motel chains are doing it that way. They are also restricting certain rooms for pets so that the least desirable are the pet rooms. All these things are possibilities for people who just want to have their pets with them, and it also causes a hardship to find someone to care for them. The choice is to usually go private. I think that it is time to change this rule and am glad that you are considering it.
Rose Sullivan
PO Box 115
Bailey, WV 26259

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Tricia Sizemore

From: MajKenn@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:42 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe you should allow pets in the cabins in the West Virginia State Parks. We travel exclusively with our dog and he is included in our plans of things to do when we get to a destination. Switzerland lets dogs visit eateries, ride on trains, and stay in hotels, and have not had any problems. About 26 yrs ago you did allow pets in the cabins because we were able to stay with one of our dogs in one of the cabins at Pipestem. We were very disappointed to learn that this had been discontinued. This definitely has an effect on our travel to your state. If you are worried about damage, collect a high security deposit, which could be returned after the cabin is checked. Collecting a high deposit could discourage some pet owners. I am not in favor of them being allowed in the lodges. We love your state but there needs to be some additional flexibility for those with pets. I would like to know how this issue turns out. Could you e-mail the result to the address from which this comes- MajKenn@ aol.com Thanks Barb Krause

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in the park cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Thomas R. Fox [mailto:trfox@wirefire.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:54 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in the park cabins

Dear Sirs,

I am not a pet person and do not relish the idea of animals in my home and would not like the idea of pet smells, etc. in a cabin or lodge room that I might rent. Thank you.

Tom Fox

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: richard martin [mailto:fortglenhuntingclub@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:59 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

I agree that pets should be allowed.

Richard L Martin
1017 Elizabeth St
Oak Hill Wv 25901

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state parks cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Sam Norris [mailto:samnorris@wvdnr.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 4:13 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in state parks cabins

Just want to say I favor allowing pets in some cabins. - Sam Norris, Randolph Co.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Park Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Howie [mailto:hjp@connecttime.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 6:24 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins

Generally a good idea with penalties for any damage. Pets have become family members.

Tricia Sizemore

From: gable [houseofgables@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 8:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it`s a great idea for pets to be allowed in rooms. With sensible rules and safeguards it would be wonderful for wild and wonderful West Virginia. Have a great day-- Bill Gable

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Cmontyz@wmconnect.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 8:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Cmontyz@wmconnect.com
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, I'am in flavor of allowing small pets in parks & lodges. Cause I'am a pet owner and love taking my little peekapoo with me where ever I go. I would love to see this happen.

Thank You,

C. Vance
Hurricane,WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state park cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Gwyn Warner [mailto:cgwynwarner@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 8:19 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in state park cabins

To Whom It May Concern:

I wholly support the change in regulations to allow pets in state park cabins.

Previously, pets were allowed in state park cabins. I routinely rented cabins, sometimes going alone, and always taking my dog. Allowing my dog to stay with me provided a much needed sense of security and well-being, even when staying alone. My dog also provided me with companionship during these stays.

When this ruling was changed, several years back, I quit renting state park cabins. I have not rented one since.

Please REINSTATE the ruling which ALLOWS pets to be allowed in cabins.

Sincerely,

C. Gwyn Warner
904 Edgewood Drive
Charleston, WV 25302
(304) 345-7759

Tricia Sizemore

From: David Scordy [davsco@erols.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 9:40 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: escordy@eitinc.com
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,

I'm all in favor of allowing pets in cabins at WV state parks. If you're worried about damages (given that most dogs I know do less damage than most kids I know), require a reasonable deposit ($50-200). There are an increasing number of hotels that allow pets, so you certainly have some "case law" supporting allowing pets.

We travel a lot to WVA (live next door in VA) and would consider state park cabins and lodges, as opposed to hotels, if we could have our dog stay. If he's not allowed, we don't stay there. We especially enjoy Pipestem, with good hiking and golf, but usually have to stay at a hotel down in Princeton.

If people leave their dogs barking, or running loose harassing people, then treat them as violators and throw them out. But let's not let the possible actions of a few bad folks result in no one being allowed to stay with their pets.

Thanks for the opportunity to provide input.

David Scordy

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ann Hay [llamalove@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:53 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in Parks

Good morning!

I would like to add my opinion to your poll.

I feel that pet owners who care enough about their pets to want to take them on vacation with them are responsible people who will clean up after their pet and take measures to prevent their pet from doing any damage to property.

When our kids were growing up we vacationed several times every year in West Virginia. Now that the kids have grown and have been replaced by dogs (!) we don't vacation in West Virginia simply because we cannot stay in a state park and take our dogs with us.

Thanks for asking! I hope the rules change so we can once again come to your beautiful parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mick & Karen Mullins [MicknKaren@allvantage.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 1:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think dogs should be allowed in the parks and cabins. We have a Lab and she loves to walk in the woods and swim. She is house broke and is a good companion.

Karen Mullins

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 1:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Wolfe, Roger [mailto:RWOLFE@jacksonkelly.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 1:30 PM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Pets in state parks

To whom it may concern:

I whole heartedly support allowing pets in state parks, including cabins

Roger A. Wolfe
Jackson Kelly
P.O. Box 553
Charleston, WV 25322
304-340-1105

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 3:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Sylvia Shafer [mailto:sysha@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 3:18 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Parks

Dogs are a member of the family. Mine are trained and should be allowed to visit our parks. We do not wish to visit without them. Please change your rule that does not allow pets.
Thank You,
Sylvia Shafer
2136 Breezy Dr
Charleston WV 25311
304 344-2839

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 4:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets/Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Ronnie L. Campbell [mailto:nesbecable@wirefire.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 6:38 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets/Cabins

I certainly am for allowing pets in cabins of state parks. More & more families are traveling with pets & hotels are now allowing pets to stay in their facilities as well. Count my vote/opinion as ***FOR*** allowing of pets.
Thank you.

Ronnie L. Campbell
PO Box 1285
Crab Orchard, WV 25827
(304) 253 8589

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 4:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: John Abbott [mailto:lovewvufootball@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 4:29 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

I am a dog owner who would love to bring my pet to certain WV state parks; but the cons of doing so more than out-weigh the pros of doing so. I do not recommend bringing pets to the parks due to the following reasons:

1. Waste droppings in walking areas, inside cabins and lodging rooms
2. Conflict between pets
3. Sleeping arrangements in the cabins or lodges - this will cause odors that will cost more money and time to abate
4. Pets chacing & running off wildlife

It is just an overall bad idea just to save visitors from having to pay kenneling fees.

John H. Abbott
60 Oak Wood Drive
Madison, WV 25130

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 4:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets/Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Ronnie L. Campbell [mailto:nesbecable@wirefire.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 6:38 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets/Cabins

I certainly am for allowing pets in cabins of state parks. More & more families are traveling with pets & hotels are now allowing pets to stay in their facilities as well. Count my vote/opinion as ***FOR*** allowing of pets.
Thank you.

Ronnie L. Campbell
PO Box 1285
Crab Orchard, WV 25827
(304) 253 8589

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 9:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: dogs/cats

-----Original Message-----
From: brian hyre [mailto:mrhyre2@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:33 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: dogs/cats

i would like to say that some people think of their dogs or cats as a kid not a pet so lets cut the bull and let the people of the usa take a dog or a cat with them i know u would never leave ur kids in a cage some where while u r out if i go some place my pets go to if not i don't no so do u know they feed them when u r out of town and they r being walked like they should be

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Tricia Sizemore

From: SandraHickey@mariettaoh.net
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 9:35 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it would be great to allow pets in the cabins and lodging. Alot of people have pets that are treated like their family members. My husband is a K9 police officer and would like to take his dog with us on vacation. We always have to check and make sure that pets are allowed, even though he is considered a service dog we still have to check first. My father and mother has a small dog and when Dad died 2 years ago, their dog was a big help for Mom. When she goes anywhere she likes to take the dog with her. We usually do take our pets with us and if we can't take them in the hotels, etc. we move onto another hotel until we can find one. Sometimes my husband has slept in the van with the dog because they wouldn't even allow the dog to sleep in the room with us at night. We never leave our dogs during the day, we take them with us wherever we go.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

We are planning on visiting Cass this summer. My grandfather worked on the railroad in the early 1900's. My grandmother use to tell me a story that when they were making their last trip down off the mountain they would blow their whistle and she would know to put the biscuits in the oven. By the time the biscuits were done, my grandfather would be home for dinner.

Thank you again for your consideration and taking the time to research the need for pets to be allowed in lodging facilities.

Sandra K. Hickey
This e-mail and any attachments were scanned by Symantec Antivirus for Domino prior to exiting the MarietttaOH.net e-mail server.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Shipilova, Anna [Anna.Shipilova@bowneglobal.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 6:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am just now looking where I can bring my wonderful dog – and can not find a place! This is why my kid will not go to WV for vacation he was long waiting for. Sound crazy, right? I wish I could come. I love WV.

Anna Shipilova
Project Coordinator

Bowne Global Solutions
1101 14th Street NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
Tel: +1 202 741 4011
Fax: +1 202 289 4677
anna.shipilova@bowneglobal.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tj88thompson@cs.com
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 10:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets are part of the family. A lot of families look for places that accept their pets. If not, well then they don't stay there. We have a dog instead of a child. She is much cleaner and quieter than a baby. And less demanding.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 8:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Flounderflap@aol.com [mailto:Flounderflap@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 5:18 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in cabins

Dear friends, Our family travels with our dog all the time.We find that most Motels and Hotels have a few rooms for pets. We hope the WV parks will follow suit. We love West Virginia, our family comes up to fish,hunt,and just hang-out for the weekend.We would spend more time up there if we could bring the dog for the whole weekend. Jobs would be creative . Pet services,such as Vets-Pet Baby Sitting-so on would spring up. People with pets are on the whole good law-abiding people. This action would be good for WV on a hole. More money spent in the Parks--and in the State . Please let a few rooms and or cabins be pet friendly. Its a good thing. Thanks Stephen T proctor. FLOUNDERFLAP@AOL.COM

Tricia Sizemore

From: WMangus@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 11:46 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would be in favor of allowing pets in most cabins, as well as selected lodge rooms. I would like to see this linked to smoking rooms also allowing pets.

Perhaps one section of cabins could be designated as non-pet for those with allergies.

Tricia Sizemore

From: J.Schreiner [jjllss1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 1:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Allowing pets in the cabins would make it easier to plan trips to the state parks. Families enjoy having their pets with them. We have often thought how much our dog would love to be able to walk with us when we visit the parks. Our cat is very adaptable to new environments. Finding proper care for them in our absence is always a challenge. We would definitely be pleased to bring them along with us for a week in West Virginia. I hope the rule is changed to allow this. My only concern would be that fleas may be left behind by other visitors. The cleaning crews of the cabins should take this into account if the rules are changed. But we would love it. Thanks for considering this change in policy.
Joanne Schreiner
Damascus, Maryland

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
ent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets Rule

-----Original Message-----
From: Becky Edwards [mailto:regioniv@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 10:09 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets Rule

I am in favor of allowing pets in the cabins or lodges. We travel every where with our dogs and would have loved to have stayed in the State Parks and will look forward to staying there in the event the rule change allows it.
Becky Edwards
HC 30 Box 17 A
Caldwell, WV 24925

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 8:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in state park cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: bill & lisa [mailto:blt1498@ftc-i.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 11:26 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in state park cabins

Dear Sir;
We support the change to let pets in the cabins. I was raised in wva. My wife and I live in south carolina. Many times we wanted to stay in a cabin, but we bring our small dog with us when we travel back home.

thank you
bill and lisa trout
blt1498@ftc-i.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 8:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: ccasto [mailto:ccasto@wvadventures.net]
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 1:06 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

We would love to see pets allowed in the Park Cabins again. Many years ago, when pets were allowed, we vacationed at the park cabins to allow us to take our dog. Allowing pets would surely be advantageous to the Park System by catering to those traveling with their four legged family members.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice an opinion and we look forward to utilizing the "pet friendly" cabins once again.

Regards,
Gary & Christina Casto

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 2:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: I vote to let pets in state park cabins

Expires: Friday, July 28, 2006 12:00 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: Smith, Barbara (BL) [mailto:smithbl@dow.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 2:08 PM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: I vote to let pets in state park cabins

Mr. Pope,
I support this wholeheartedly. Pets are often as much a member of the family as children. I love to travel and have a circle of friends that travel and we are always looking for places where we can go and enjoy not only the location, but also enjoy interacting with our pets. I believe that there is an ever-increasing group of individuals with pets that are considered family which would like to include their pets in their vacation. These folks allow their pets run of their house and also are good neighbors when their pets are out of the house with them. These folks would not allow their pets to foul their vacation home or surroundings anymore than they would their own home & neighborhood. I think that with the proper rules, pets can be accommodated in our state parks. Thanks,

> Barbara L. Smith
> Dow Oxides and Glycols Business
> Chemicals and Intermediates
> Quality Systems Specialist
> The Dow Chemical Company
> Phone: 1-304-747-5393
> Fax: 1-304-747-1211
> Email: smithbl@dow.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: ELSAZ@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:40 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I was so pleased to see that you are seeking comments about the possibility of allowing pets in the cabins at Blackwater Falls. As a pet owner and lover, I am completely in favor of such a change. I feel that regulations could be in place to guarantee responsibility for damages and for safety. Surely it would work out. Persons would care enough to bring their pet on vacations act in like caring manner about the facilities and the environment. I am a responsible person for my pet as well as for my family and would abide by regulations should the law be changed to allow pets. Thank you for your consideration. We love Blackwater Falls and it would give us an opportunity for the entire familyl to be together. Elsa Zollars. Please note that my new email address is elsazz@verizon.net.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 3:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Dogs in parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Mary Noel [mailto:mnoel@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 2:38 PM
To: Parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Dogs in parks

I would like to be able to take my dogs to the parks, and without additional charge.
At some of the parks, pets are not wanted.
I consider my pets as a 'part of the family' unit.
What can be done about this matter?

Tricia Sizemore

From: VKAYBE@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 3:18 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would like to see the rules change concerning pets at WV State Parks. My husband and I have a tiny Pomeranian that we take everywhere we go (and I'm sure we are not the only people with pets who travel). There have been many week-ends that we would like to stay at one of the WV State Parks but cannot because of our dog.

I think this change would be much more beneficial than allowing drinking of alcoholic beverages at the parks. I feel very strongly that children should not be subjected to alcohol consumption and would certainly not take my grand child where people were drinking.

Thank you.

Kay Slone
Vkaybe@aol.com
Huntington, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at state Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Sheila Harvey [mailto:sharvey@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:53 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at state Parks

I think dogs should be allowed in at least some cabins and lodge rooms at every state park.
I don't mind paying a damage fee, but I think it should be refunded on departure if no damage was done.
Also, I've noticed that some places limit it to one dog and under 50 lbs. This eliminates a lot of people, like myself, who have two dogs over 50 lbs. The most popular dogs today are mostly over 50 lbs. and the size of the dog doesn't determine its behavior.
Also, I've noticed that some places that allow pets, designate them to the smoking areas. I'm a nonsmoker and even if I could bring my pets, I wouldn't stay in a smoking room. I think nonsmoking rooms/cabins should be available that allow pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: allowing pets to stay in motel rooms

-----Original Message-----
From: ARMSRRM3@aol.com [mailto:ARMSRRM3@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:53 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: allowing pets to stay in motel rooms

I think you should consider the law that you have now and let pet owners take their pets with them when they are staying in motel or hotel rooms in West Virginia--I'm a pet lover and I always took my pets on vacation with us--they're part of the family and should be treated that way and sometimes pets are cleaner than people and are more understanding and gives you unconditionally love and they are men and women BEST FRIEND for life. So please consider changing the law.

Thank you, M Armstrong

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: NICHOLAS CHAMBERS [mailto:njchambers@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:59 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in state parks

Yes, I tink people should be allowed to have pets in the cabins and lodges.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Joyce Paxton [mailto:rojospoms@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:15 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: RE: pets in state parks

I think accommodations should be made for people to bring their pets to cabins and such. Maybe not all of them but certainly some should be made pet friendly. If my dog can't go, I don't go and a lot of people feel the same way.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Donald Smith [mailto:glduck@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:18 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Parks

As a pet owner who's dog rides with him all over West Virginia, and beyond on the back of a motorcycle I am definitely in favor of pets in State Parks Accommodations. I do yse State Parks on a regular basis, but at present I am confined to camping, but would like to have a room occasionally. Thank you for listening to the pet owners of West Virginia, and giving us a chance to make our case.
Don "DUCK" Smith
PO Box 966
Clendenin, WV 25045
548-6044

Deal's Gap?
318 curves in 11 Miles.
West Virginia
36,000 Miles, 11 Straightaways!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Park Cabins & Lodge Rooms

-----Original Message-----
From: Charles and Debra Martin [mailto:emilytim@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:23 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins & Lodge Rooms

Favor allowing pets in lodge room and cabins.
I would be willing to present my pets medical and vacination records and pay an additional deposit for lodging if we could bring our pet on vacations with us. Also, pet owners should furnish receipts for purchasing of any flea and tick prevention used for their pets. I believe these requirements and monetary penalties for any pet damage to lodging should be stipulated and enforced. This should prohibit most problems that should occur due to allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms from responsible pet owners.
Thank you!
Sincerely, Debra S. Martin

Tricia Sizemore

From: ROBERT ALLEN [allenz10023@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of permitting pets in rooms, campgrounds, etc. at state parks. Afterall, they are part of the family! Thanks.

R. Allen

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Tricia Sizemore

From: mossburgess@charter.net
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in state parks

I see nothing wrong with pets being allowed in our state parks provided the public is protected. An additional fee could be charged for such. Some pets are better than adults. Moss Burgess Box 66 Wilkinson, W.V. 25653

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lillerlacey@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i am a pet owner and lover and see no problem with allowing pets, however i believe that as many motels do, there should be designated rooms and cabins where pets are not allowed for those who may have allergies can stay in comfort.

Tricia Sizemore

From: vinel10 [holley10@zoominternet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 6:12 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

it seems to me pets is better suited for our parks than drunks my vote
YES to allow dogs

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
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Tricia Sizemore

From: Lee Ann Plumley [LPlumley@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think that a pet should be permitted to stay with a family in a state park. They are a part of the family and it can be difficult to make arrangements for someone to keep your dog, cat etc. I feel it is time for a change, thanks Lee Ann.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gina4037@cs.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 10:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Gina4037@cs.com
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Dear Sirs,
Thank you for making this an easy oppertunity to comment. I would like to see animals allowed. I would also like to suggest that it be set up like smoking and non-smoking room offers. This way those who have allergies will not be left to suffer because of the rooms' previous guests.

Respectfully,
Mrs. Teri Thaxton

Tricia Sizemore

From: JEAN Booten [e2melton@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Two votes from this household **in favor** of allowing pets in cabins.

Earl and Jean Melton

Tricia Sizemore

From: Birthday [cherylskiles@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets in cabins should be acceptable. However an additional fee for should be attached to cover the extra clean up that might be needed after a pet has stayd in the cabin. Also pet owners should be held responacable to clean up any soild waste left on the grounds around the cabin.

T.E. Skiles
5611 Kanawha Ave SE
Charleston WV 25304

Tricia Sizemore

From: Treesbottom@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 6:48 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please allow pets (on leashes) in WV State Parks! Please allow pets in cabins, too! Allowing pets will encourage outdoor enthusiasts (who have pets) to frequent the parks!
Elice
Eastern Panhandle Well-behaved Golden Retriever Owner

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tom Maxwell [thomas.maxwell@chenford.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 8:05 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think you should be able to keep you dog or cat in your room or cabin, as long as the guest cleans up after the pet. Tom Maxwell

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charles Yoho [yoho@toast.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:22 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My wife and I love to travel and have on many occasions been unable to stay in West Virginia state park facilities because we take our pet dachshund with us. We would love to give back to the state park facilities that are in dire need of more funding. I would also be willing to pay more for a night's stay if it meant being able to bring our pet.

I know something can be done to accommodate those pet owners that would also increase revenues for the state parks, but excluding people like my wife and I brings no revenue at all to the parks! Something must be done.

Aaron Yoho
Fairmont, West Virginia

Tricia Sizemore

From: Murl & Mary rogers [rogersm@bcnetmail.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Let the pets in. They are cleaner than a lot of people.

Tricia Sizemore

From: William Wolverton [bpwolv@webtv.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 6:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As responsible pet owners we often do not take advantage of our beautiful parks because our pet is not welcome. We are retired and often travel other places with our dog. Many others feel the same way. We would never have a problem with paying a refundable deposit. This is a very good way to weed out pet owners who are not responsible. We are life long residents of WV but know many people who live out of our state and travel with their pets and consider them part of their family. They also would like to take advantage of the cabins and lodges in our state parks.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wolverton

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ted Davis [zen5zen@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:25 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe it is an excellent idea to allow pets in the cabins. I think people would be able to utilize the cabins more frequently if pets were welcome. I know I would....I am single and have a small dog, which prevents me from using the cabins in the state parks. She is not a destructive dog and the park could require a damage deposit to be returned if there are no problems.

Please vote in favor of our beloved pets.!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jim Ozols [ozolsj@mantech-wva.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:11 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I fully support the proposal to allow pets in cabins and cabin areas. If DNR follows guidelines such as used by many major hotel/motel chains, most issues regarding pets could be addressed in a manner beneficial to DNR and their guests at WV State Parks.

James D. Ozols
Senior Logistics Specialist
Man Tech Advanced Systems International, Inc.
Office: (304)[illegible]1065 ext 323
Fax: (304)466-6821
ozolsj@mantech-wva.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: MICHAEL BUSHKO [bushkom@adelphia.net]

Sent: Sunday, July 24, 2005 8:33 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I have a grandson who is highly allergic to cats and dogs. Therefore I do not feel that animals should be allowed in **All** cabins, lodge rooms or camp sites. I think that certain rooms should be reserved for those who like to bring their pets along. I think the price should be higher to allow for the extra cleaning and possible flea treatments these rooms will need. I think pet owners should be able to provide up-to-date shot records at the time of registration. Leash laws should be enforced also. I think it should be limited to just cats and dogs. If not people will bring ferrets, snakes, potbellied pigs as well as some exotic animals.

I am a pet owner and would very much like to bring it along on some occasions.

Thank you for letting me have a say.

sulebu@adelphia.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: s. echols [sse47@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, July 24, 2005 8:33 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a dog lover & avid camper, alas, I was heartbroken when WV banned my dog from all cabins. I do understand why & it really bothers me when people do not clean up after their pets. (I will say that I have seen some mighty expensive RV's pull up & never clean up after their dogs).

I am FOR allowing a couple of pets in your cabins but strongly suggest that you designate a cabin or two for pet owners. I also have a couple of ideas that you might want to consider: #1. in your campgrounds, have a "reward" for people who turn in inconsiderate pet owners & #2. for heavens sake, put in water, sewer, & upgrade to 50amp. power in places like Twin Falls & Camp Creek. I see rv after rv turn around & pull out because there is no facility for them. Thank You, sandra s. echols, sse47@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: LESTER BLANKENSHIP [harleymedic792000@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 11:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I haven't traveled to your state parks because I can't bring my pet.
I have traveled to some of your neighboring states that allow pets. I would visit and stay in a cabin or lodge if pets were allowed.

Lester...harleymedic792000@yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: TinksPixieDust21@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 12:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am the owner of a very well behaved German Shepherd and would love to be able to take him with my family and I when we stay at State Park Cabins.But I do understand that not every pet owner is able to take the responsibility of making sure their pet does not "destroy" the cabins. So maybe impose a safety deposit for pet owners. If there is not damage to the cabin then they get their safety deposit back. I don't know if that would be possible or not.

Tricia Sizemore

From: LJZutautGee@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 7:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Although a Michigan resident, I am a frequent visitor of West Virginia, usually annually. It is a beautiful state that my family never tires of visiting.

And as a responsible dog owner, would really like to see **dogs and/or cats allowed** in the lodges and cabins, but at the very least in the cabins.

In previous years we have had to make arrangements at other hotels/motels close by the state parks because we travel with a dog. We have also camped, but sometimes due to a shorter length of our stay we do not want to haul our big rig down from northern MI.

Please give careful consideration to this Proposal!

Thank you,

Laura Gee

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carolyn Unrue [CUnrue@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets should be allowed in cabins, but not in rooms at the lodge.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Pam Drennen [mailto:putt@ntelos.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:32 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

Hello,

I would very much like to be able to take my pet with me when I stay in our Park Cabins. If a deposit is required, that would be fine if it is returned to me upon my departure - and my pet didn't destroy anything.

Thanks,
Pam Drennen
Chas., WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
ent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:18 AM
ſo: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Proposed Change in Pets Rule for State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: danedwards [mailto:danedwards@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 2:58 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Proposed Change in Pets Rule for State Parks

To:

John R. Pope, Chief DNR Parks and Recreation

From:

Dan Edwards
HC 30 Box 17A
Caldwell, WV 24925

I am writing to voice my support in favor of allowing pets in State Park Cabins and Lodge Rooms.

Many times, I would have stayed in State Parks, but my dog was not allowed. Instead, I have stayed in private facilities while visiting the parks.

To John R Pope 6/28/05

Dear Sir,

I am responding to the consideration of allowing pets to be housed at the State Park Cabins in W.V. I vacation in W.V. most of the time and always with my pets. I've always been forced to stay outside the state parks due to pet prohibited in cabins. I love our mountains and streams as opposed to beaches and ornament parks. I feel that our resources are perfect for enjoying vacations with my dogs. I do not travel without them nor will I board them to vacation. Boarding costs are expensive and they sometime create hoax with the dogs. I feel that allowing pets in our cabins would benefit the states revenue more than it would hurt it. I understand the risks involved such as destruction of property, fleas & ticks, and dog bites therefore I would be willing to pay an increased price for housing my animals, and showing proff of vaccinations. even flea and tick medications.

Thank You for hopefully opening the door for us to our states cabins. I'm looking forward to hopefully being able to

book reservations with you. With any luck we'll see you soon!

Sincerely
Angela Kennedy

Digger & Scraggy thank you too!

TO - John R. Pope 28 June 05

Dear Sir,

I am writing in regards to the upcoming legislation to allow pets to accompany their owners in State park cabins. I enjoy the parks of our state and visit them frequently. Regretably, when I vacation, I am forced to find privately owned cabins which are pet friendly. I would much rather spend my money in support of our parks instead of private establishments benefiting simply because I choose to vacation with my dogs. I understand that there are concerns of damages to the cabins by pets. I would be more than happy to pay either a higher rate or a security deposit to cover such a possibility. I believe the park system would find a new source of revenue and the benefits would far outweigh any risks. Most people who

vacation with their pets have well trained animals who are already used to staying in new lodgings. This would be our case.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely
Beverly P. Emery
Digger
and
Scrappy

Peter L. Cuffaro

From: "Peter L. Cuffaro" <wastemanagement45@comcast.net>
To: <triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov>
Cc: "Lysti Looney" <llooney@dnr.state.wv.us>; "Frank Jezioro" <FRANKJEZIORO@WVDNR.GOV>
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 12:07 PM
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

June 6, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

RE: Proposal to Permit Overnight Park Guests to Keep Pets (Dogs and/or Cats) in State Park Cabins and Possibly in Lodge
Rooms

My wife and I would greatly appreciate your consideration of permitting overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

I am physically challenged, confined to a wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury.

In the fall of 2004, my wife and I wanted to rent a wheelchair accessible cabin at Blackwater Falls for four days in the month of October. We cancelled those plans because we could not bring our family dog "Maggie", who is part Border Collie and Brittany Spaniel.

The department needs to realize that many folks are now traveling with their dogs and cats in today's world.

We went on a hunting trip to Texas last November. We drove and took "Maggie" with us on the trip. She was welcomed at Red Roof Inns as well as many other hotels along the route. She was even welcomed at the YO Ranch where I hunted. And yes, we would not have taken this trip if "Maggie" could not go with us.

For your information, many homes in the Outer Banks of North Carolina now accept vacationing pets too.

Erin and I would love to travel more in our State of West Virginia and visit its state parks, but will not do so until dogs (family pets) are accepted at our parks and their cabins.

The State needs to consider the amount of money it is losing by not permitting travelers to bring their pets with them when traveling to W.Va. State Parks.

Thank you for your time and consideration concerning this request.

With best regards,

PETE AND ERIN CUFFARO
102 HUNTERS RIDGE ROAD
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA
wastemanagement45@comcast.net
(304) 242-0405 (Home)

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains

Peter L. and Erin E. Cuffaro

102 Hunters Ridge Road
Wheeling, West Virginia 26003-9383

Home Phone: (304) 242-0405
E-Mail: wastemanagement45@comcast.net

June 26, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

RE: Proposal to Permit Overnight Park Guests to Keep Pets (Dogs and/or Cats) in State Park Cabins and Possibly in Lodge Rooms

Please find enclosed an article that appeared in the June 19th, 2005 edition of the *Wheeling Sunday News-Register* with reference to the Deep Creek Lake area of Maryland as a "pet-friendly" destination.

We thought this article might be of interest and informative when making a decision on the proposal to permit overnight park guests in the State of West Virginia to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

Please note in the article that an estimated twenty-seven million Americans will travel with their pet this year. We believe you and your committee will agree that this is a very impressive number and a large contingent of our population that are traveling with their pets. It is also a target group to entice to visit our state and seek lodging at our state parks.

For your convenience, we have also attached a copy of the e-mail we forwarded in support of the proposal to permit overnight park guests in the State of West Virginia to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

Before closing we want to thank you and your committee for your time and consideration concerning this matter.

With much appreciation, we are

Sincerely,

Peter L. Cuffaro

Erin E. Cuffaro

Attachment: E-Mail

Enclosure: *Wheeling Sunday News-Register* Article

June 2, 05

Mr Pope:

I am so thrilled that you are seeking the public's thoughts on re allowing pets in to our state parks. I am a responsible state bay paying resident who loves & admires our parks My husband & I are VIPP s working on our "packets"

I am in favor of allowing our pets back in. I used to bring my dogs with us & treasure the memories. I was careful then and we will be so again if you allow us. I think WE would win win; I believe that our fellow pet owners that enjoy the parks would take all care to preserve and also be tolerant of other creatures that dont bring or have pets.

Please consider this WV a park vacationer as positively for this to happen.

Thank you so much for asking & please listen to our hearts & make it a reality

PS I now only own a Chihuahua but previously had a large & small dog who have since passed We enjoy great memories of them at Babcock, Watoga We thank you

Sincerely

Deborah Ross
169 Tark Hill Rd
Chas WV 25312
(304) 965-6492

Trace

Wed - 6-8-05

Dear Sirs:

To whom it may concern.

I am writing concerning the article I saw in a Hagerstown Md newspaper saying N.C. is considering allowing pets in their State Parks lodging.

I think its about time responsible pet owners (also taxpayers) are not treated like second-class citizens.

My husband made a special trip from our home to Jyget Lake Park last year, hoping we could get a cabin so he could rent a boat + motor and do some fishing.

When he explained about our little 11lb yorkie Pete, he was told very nicely but firmly no.

So, instead of N.C. getting our vacation dollars we drove to Cape Ann on Boston North Shore and spent a week there.

I could rant on and on but die finish

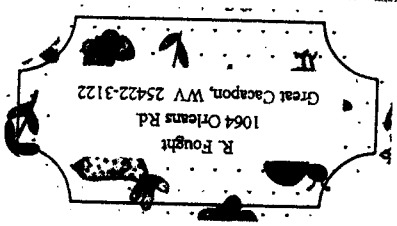
this by saying. I certainly hope you will allow your fellow citizens to use your facilities.

I understand that some trees must be banned. Our homeowner insurance has several listed.

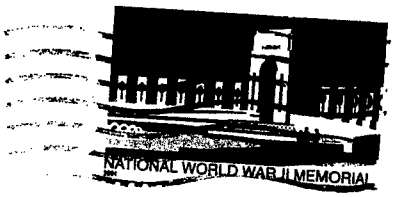
Also perhaps a deposit would be feasable.

Thank You

Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Fought
1064 Orleans Rd.
Great Cacapon
W.V. 25422







TRISHA

John R. Pope DNR Parks & Rec.
Capitol Building 3. Room 713
Charleston
WV 25305

25301/2221

June 12, 2005

Dear Sir:

In answer to your article in the Berkeley Springs, WV "Morgan Messenger" — should dogs be allowed to stay overnight in the Lodge or cabins at Cacapon State Park and other WV parks?

I do not believe patrons of any Lodge should be subjected to dog oders from carpet, dog hair, barking dogs, etc. Male dogs have a tendency to mark their territory by urinating and many dogs become nervous in strange surroundings and will act out by urinating, regurgitating, or barking excessively. Ask the question would the cost of damage to a room and cost of extra time from your cleaning staffs equal the patrons who would refuse to come to the Lodge in a state park because their pets were not allowed? I seriously doubt it!

However, I am a pet owner and can relate to the trama a pet experiences when

Kenneled. The solution seems obvious to me. Let the owners have their pets in the cabins. Continue the "dog on a leash" rule. The owner will be responsible for any noise the dog would make for after all patrons of state parks are trying to escape noises and want to enjoy a nice, relaxing holiday. This seems like a good solution for both pet and non-pet owners.

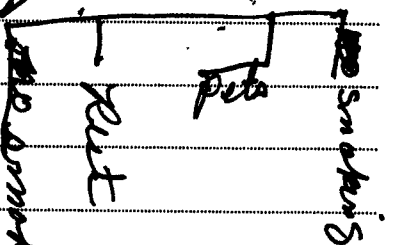
Respectfully

Carolyn Healy
20 Hudson Street
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

Love is Patient

... love is kind. Love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong, but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Sir: Being a dog lover, I do hate to leave my dog behind at home. Out of state I call ahead for permission. I have stayed in large motels with our best friend "Jack N." Most motels charge $5.00 extra per night. Good deal. This one motel had 150 rooms was made like this.



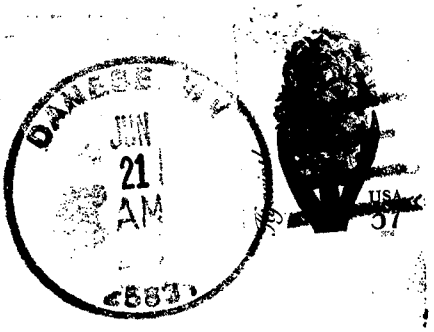
I feel not all cabins should be permitted for animals, lets pay $ cabins to dogs, We are dog not Animals

No. 24072 © 2002 DSI

Lovers make rules, like no barking if possible, Motel owner should be the walking trail. Sign papers your are held responsible for damage by your dog.. I know the public do more damage then pets

Madelyn Smith
Owner of Jack 'N' Smith

Madelyn Smith
R.R. 1 Box 42
Clifftop, WV 25831



John R. Pope Chief
W Virginia State Parks
att: Public Comment & Rules
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

June 24, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief

We are dog and cat lovers. Right now, we do not have a dog, but do have a cat.

We feel it would be okay to keep a dog overnight in a park cabin only, not in a lodge room. The guest would have to be held responsible for keeping the dog on a leash when outside and to carry a plastic bag to pick up the dogs waste. Red to keep the inside of the cabin clean while there and to make sure it is clean when they check out. If any damage done from the dog, the guest should be held responsible.

A cat is independent - no way should a cat be allowed to stay overnight in a cabin or lodge room. Most cats do not like to travel anyway.

Whenever we went away, we had our neighbor take care of our dog, when

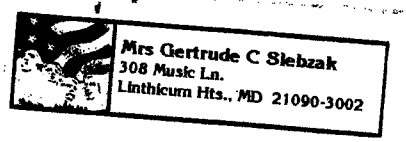
Ed

we had one; The same thing with our cat.

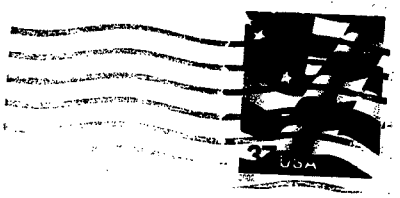
A seeing-eye dog is a different story and should be allowed to stay overnight in a cabin and possibly in a lodge room.

Yours truly,

John & Gertrude Slebzak
308 Music Lane
Linthicum Md.
21090-3002







John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

ATTN: Public Comment
RE: PETS

25305/0009

E
Sunday News-Register
JUNE 19, 2005

TRAVEL

INSIDE:
Crossword/Page 2
Mother Earth News/Page 4
Homes/Page 4
Books/Page 5

Deep Creek



Destination
atersports, and More

By BETSY BETHEL
Arts & Living Associate Editor

As we left our neighborhood and headed down the interstate, Ben was so excited he couldn't sit still in the back seat. For the first hour of the trip, his pulse raced and his dark caramel-colored eyes glistened with anticipation as he surveyed the unfamiliar territory outside.

If the 2-year-old could speak, the questions would have tumbled out: "Where are we going? What are we doing? What's happening? Tell me, tell me, tell me, huh?"

Wee Ben Rothlisdogger, the golden retriever mix my husband and I adopted last Thanksgiving from a Toledo foster home, was embarking on his first weekend vacation. An affable adventure seeker, Ben reluctantly spent his first several months with us recuperating from the heartworm he contracted as a stray. Soon after the doctor gave Ben the green light for normal activity, we took our buddy hiking and exploring in the Deep Creek Lake, Md., area.

It not only was Ben's first weekend jaunt with us, but it also was our first getaway with a pet. A



Photo by Betsy Bethel

Wee Ben Rothlisdogger, above, strikes a pose and catches his breath near the 53-foot Muddy Creek Falls, Maryland's tallest waterfall, located in Swallow Falls State Park, Garrett County, Md. Below, Luna sports a hot pink life jacket while boating on Deep Creek Lake in a rental boat from Bill's Marine. The French bulldog belongs to Deb Clatterbuck, director of tourism for Garrett County, Md.

Have Dog, Will Travel

By BETSY BETHEL
Arts & Living Associate Editor

Employing common sense and common courtesy are the two main ingredients for a pleasant vacation with your pet.

Before heading out the door for our first weekend trip with our dog, we checked online for some travel tips and guidelines. From those sources and some firsthand experience, here are some guidelines:

■ **First, realize you are packing for your pet, too,** and therefore you may need to cut back on your own stuff, depending on the size of your vehicle. We required an extra duffel bag plus two grocery sacks for all Ben's supplies.

■ **We packed the following supplies:** dog license, a familiar blanket, rawhide bone, treats, rope toy, food, bowls, bottled water (not only for on-the-road and on-the-trail refreshment but also because the dog may get sick from unfamiliar tap water), tick spray (we should have used that!), plastic bags for poop disposal, carpet and upholstery cleaner, roll of paper towels, shampoo and a towel.

■ **It is recommended that you get your pet checked by the vet** before the trip, carry updated shot records and have a color photo and description of your pet with you at all times.

■ **We did not use a crate, but they come highly recommended by the experts,** including the American Kennel Club. Crates are a safety p[illegible]tion for a car trip and are handy for times when you have to leave the dog at your hotel. Doggie car restraints also are available for safety on the road. The University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine says to be sure the crate is big enough "to allow the animal to stand, turn around and be comfortable, yet feel secure."

■ **To prevent motion sickness,** experts recommend you get your dog used to traveling by increasing the length of car trips before your vacation.

■ **Stop frequently at rest stops for exercise, water and potty breaks.** Pet Friendly Travel Guides states traveling by car more than six hours a day can be overly stressful and exhausting for a pet.

■ **Always, always, always clean up after your pet.**

■ **Finally, don't leave your dog in the car on a hot day** or even a sunny day during which the car can heat up much hotter than the outside temperature. Pet Friendly Travel Guides warns never to leave a pet in a car, even with the windows open, if the temperature is over 75 degrees. If you're going somewhere and your pet can't go in, have one member of your party stay outside with him, or go somewhere else! If you have to leave him in the car for a brief period, park in the shade, leave him plenty of water and open the windows as far as possible.

Online sources: TravelSense, University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, Pet Friendly Travel Guides



Photo Provided

[illegible] weekend at Deep Creek Lake proved a good choice for several reasons: a weekend rather than a whole week helped break us all in gently; a two-hour, interstate highway trip meant little chance of Ben getting car sick; and Deep Creek Lake is a pet-friendly destination.

"We are encouraging dog-friendly vacations," said Garrett County tourism director Deb Clatterbuck. "Twenty-seven million Americans will travel with their pet this year."

Clatterbuck knows firsthand about dog vacations. She not only takes her French bulldog, Luna, with her on trips, she takes her pretty much everywhere on a daily basis. When we arrived at the Garrett County Visitors Center in McHenry, Clatterbuck greeted Dave and me, while Luna welcomed Ben.

"She comes to work with me every day," Clatterbuck said of her little white pooch.

And they're off ...

Armed with an itinerary of Garrett County highlights and a list of pet-friendly parks, restaurants and activities, soon we were off on our first adventure — a short but beautiful hike through a virgin hemlock and white pine forest at Swallow Falls State Park, southwest of Deep Creek Lake.

We discovered quickly that Ben is a born trekker. He fearlessly scrambled over rocks and roots and would have plunged right into the chilly Youghigheny River if we had let him. Overlooking a beautiful succession of short but swift waterfalls on the Yough, I drank in the sights and sounds ... and clung to Ben's leash a little too tightly. I did let him dip his feet in.

The wooded path bends along the river and features ancient recessed sandstone formations on the way to Muddy Creek Falls, which is Maryland's highest waterfall. The state recently completed a handicapped accessible ramp to a viewing platform of the 53-foot falls. Ben hopped on a rock near the falls and posed for a photo, smiling from ear to ear.

The following day, we joined Deep Creek Lake State Park naturalist Anthony Oliverio, known as Amo, and some other visitors for a nature hike on the park's Snakeroot Trail. It, too, was a beautiful wooded hike, and we learned to identify a variety of flora and fauna. We marveled at black bear claw marks on a trailside tree trunk; spotted a Baltimore oriole flitting through the trees; made the acquaintance of a salamander and listened to a nest full of woodpecker babies tweeting for their mother.

Please see Deep Creek, Page E3

DEEP CREEK

Continued from Page E1

There was more talking than walking on this particular hike, and while I found it fascinating, Dave had a hard time keeping Ben from bounding to and fro. Fortunately, the elevation keeps poison ivy from growing, so we didn't have to worry about the dog prancing through it and passing it to us. He did acquire a few brown dog ticks on the way, which we didn't discover until after we returned to Ohio.

On a side note, but keeping to the hiking theme, we stopped on our way home at Coopers Rock State Forest near Morgantown. The view of the Cheat River gorge alone is worth the trip, but the forest also features more than 50 miles of scenic trails of varying length and difficulty. Dogs are allowed in the camping area and on all the trails, although the office advises owners to keep them leashed during hunting seasons.

Back at Deep Creek, five state parks and two state forests in Garrett County have different rules about pets, but most allow them on leashes, with a couple restricting dogs on hiking trails to the off-season (Labor Day through Memorial Day). New Germany State Park is the exception; no pets of any kind are allowed in the park.

The digs

Following our Swallow Falls trek, we had time to stop briefly at our lakeside vacation home rental to drop off our bags and get situated. Deep Creek Lake features hundreds of homes available for rent from real estate agencies, and more than 200 of them allow dogs for an extra fee. In addition, 10 hotels and motels, including Wisp Mountain Resort Hotel and Conference Center, allow pets. Some have fees and other restrictions.

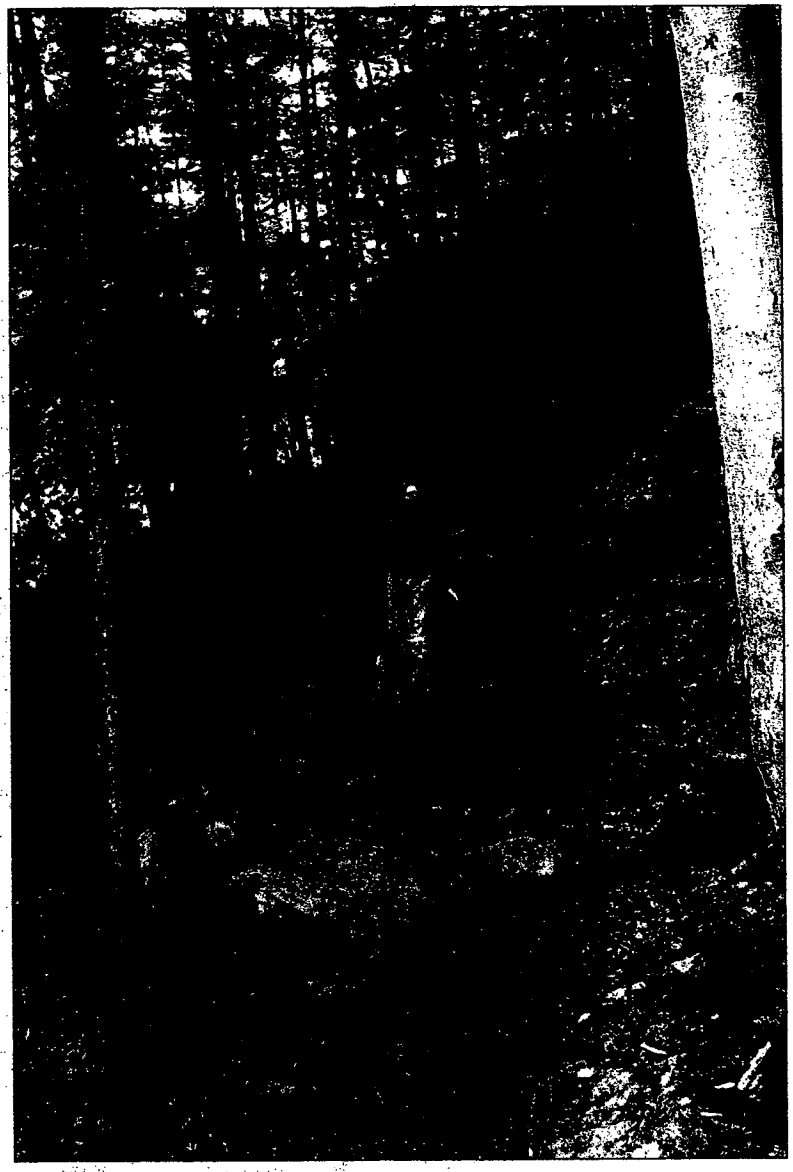
Our rental home, called Summer Song, sat about 100 yards from the shore on a quiet southwestern finger of Deep Creek Lake. A family owns the spacious home that sleeps 12, but Railey Mountain Lake Vacations administers the rental of it. We felt right at home when we saw the golden retriever tapestry on the living room wall! The indoor hot tub, boat dock, pool table, fireplace, king size bed and gigantic deck were inviting, as well.

To our chagrin, we learned quickly to watch Ben like a hawk the first time he checks out new digs: He lifted his leg on the futon within minutes of our arrival.

If it had been warmer during our visit (we were there in mid-May), we would have headed out on the water for sure. Bill's Marine is the main boat rental outfit on the lake, and they welcome dogs. High Mountain Sports offers flatwater kayaks, and Wilderness Voyageurs rents canoes; both of which allow dogs if they are "kept under control." All companies recommend owners provide pet flotation devices; both Bill's and High Mountain sell them.

Chow time

After settling in at Summer Song, we had just enough time to catch "yappy hour" at the Black Bear Tavern and Restaurant in McHenry. Most Deep Creek Lake restaurants feature outdoor deck dining where pets are welcome. At Black Bear, our dog-loving waitress, Rox, set Ben up with a huge pail of



DETAILS, DETAILS

For a Deep Creek Lake Area vacation guide, call the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, (301) 387-4FUN (4386) or e-mail info@garrettchamber.com.

Dining Recommendations

You've got your high-profile steakhouses, such as Black Bear Tavern, Santa Fe Grill and Pine Lodge, and your pizzerias that run the gamut from Little Caesar's to Uno Chicago Grill (Smiley's gets my vote for best pie), but you would be remiss to pass up the following Garrett County eateries:

■ **Fireside Deli and Wine Shop,** 2205 Glendale Road, Swanton, (301) 387-0083 — Proprietress Maryellen Miller is living her entrepreneurial dream with this little specialty shop featuring wines she hand-selects, fine meats and cheeses, gourmet pantry items and a gift shop. There really is a fireplace around which guests are welcome to congregate sipping hot cider or chocolate or tasting the day's featured wines. Miller makes fresh wraps, paninis, deli sandwiches and salads, and is particularly proud to carry Firefly Farms artisanal cheeses made in nearby Bittinger by a couple of friendly blokes who raise goats. Have Miller pack you a gourmet picnic lunch or dinner before you head out for a hike, a day on the boat or a relaxing evening at your lakefront rental home.

■ **Cornish Manor,** 830 Memorial Drive, Oakland, (301) 334-6499 — Frenchman Jacques Hourtal runs this restaurant in a newly remodeled Victorian home that dates to the railroad boom era when urbanites from D.C. headed to the mountains for fresh air and relaxation. The leaded windows, fine upholsteries and Tiffanys are gorgeous, and the Chef Fabrice Chicken Salad, a hot concoction served in a bread bowl, is highly recommended. Ten days before our visit, actor and Bethany College alum William H. Macy dined there with some family members who own a home on the lake.

■ **Canoe on the Run,** 2622 Deep Creek Drive, McHenry, (301) 387-5933 — Open for breakfast and lunch, this restaurant features world music, wooden floors, a full coffee bar, pastries, muffins, scones, salads and sandwiches. I can't say enough about the oatmeal — a heaping bowl of parcooked old-fashioned oats topped with a dried fruit and nut medley and a side of brown sugar and milk.

Day Trips from Deep Creek

Sunburned, windburned or rained out

are welcome. At Black Bear, our dog-loving waitress, Rox, set Ben up with a huge pail of ice water while Dave and I sampled the lumpiest of lump crab cakes and steak grilled to perfection.

The most dog-friendly of all the restaurants we discovered, however, was Trader's Coffee House, featuring "canine hitches" and water bowls at each outdoor table, and an entire section inside devoted to dog merchandise, including books, place mats, bowls and homemade gourmet treats such as "canine-olis" and peanut butter bones. Trader's has great coffee, delicious breakfast paninis and hand-dipped gelato. Manager Jaimee Recker brought Ben some complimentary biscuits, which she does for all four-legged patrons, and then she treated him to a new taste sensation, a doggie-safe frozen yogurt bone.

Other dog-friendly restaurants (with outdoor dining) at Deep Creek Lake include Boardwalk, Canoe on the Run, Honi Honi, Wisp, Lakeside Creamery and Smiley's Funzone & Pizzeria. Both Smiley's Funzone and a second outdoor entertainment complex, Funland, welcome pets on leashes.

Once Ben understood that deck dining meant he needed to lie down and relax for a bit, he didn't tug on his leash too much. He wasn't always ready to wind down when we were, but his excitement was understandable — there were lots of people to greet, new smells and sounds, and just a whole lot of stimulation going on.

Ben in a china shop?

Garrett County's push for pet-friendliness includes its visitors centers — both the brand new McHenry center and the restored historical train depot that serves as the center in county seat Oakland. The Oakland center, called the Shoppe at Heritage Square, features a museum and is filled with the work of local artisans, including jewelry, scarves, rugs, food products, glass and pottery.

Ohio Valley residents interested in glassmaking might enjoy touring both the Simon Pearce Glass Factory and Louis DiCarlo's Stained Glass Gallery, both in Mountain Lake Park, between Deep Creek Lake and Oakland.

Louis DiCarlo's gallery features more than 2,000 pieces on display, including angels, sun catchers, lamps, windows and candle holders. DiCarlo has 48 years of experience and creates his artwork on the premises.

Irishman Pearce, now of Vermont, sells his fine glassware in shops on Park Avenue in New York City and Newbury Street in Boston, among other locations, and has four glassblowing facilities in the United States, one of which is in Garrett County and is run by a former Blinko Glass employee. Pearce's work is known for its simple lines, and he traditionally only works in clear glass, although he recently established a pottery line, following his family's tradition in County Cork. Visitors can watch the 13 glassblowers at work and take a piece home from the shop. Bring your credit card: The 4-inch-tall cream pitcher I had my eye on was more than $40, and it was a second.

While the people at Simon Pearce said Ben was welcome, I used my better judgment and let him and Dave roam the grassy grounds while I checked out the factory and shop.

Overall, we were pleased to discover that Ben seems to enjoy traveling as much as we do. On the car ride home, a weary Ben curled up in the back seat and took a well-deserved nap.





In the top photo, Betsy Bethel and her pal Ben trek through the hemlock and white pine forest of Swallow Falls State Park in the Deep Creek Lake area. Above, a tapestry in a dog-friendly lakeside vacation home depicts a pair of golden retrievers. At right, Dave McFarland and Ben check out the wares of local artists at The Shoppe at Heritage Square, which also serves as a visitors center and museum, in Oakland.





Photos by Betsy Bethel

Left, Ben stands sentinel with leash securely fastened to the "canine hitch" while his two-legged friend reads the paper during breakfast at Traders Coffee House on Deep Creek Lake. Above, visitors to Coopers Rock State Forest in Monongalia County, W.Va., enjoy the view of the Cheat River gorge.

Day Trips from Deep Creek

Sunburned, windburned or rained out at the lake? Here are some ideas to pass the day away:

■ **Go shopping** — For antiques: Oakland alone has 10 antique shops, including Englander's Antiques & Soda Fountain, Alder House and Red House School Country Mall. For arts and crafts: The Shoppe at Heritage Square (in the old B&O station) and The Gallery on Alder Street in Oakland feature some of the finest handmade jewelry, clothing and gifts. For specialty gifts: Schoolhouse Earth in Friendsville is filled to the rafters with ornaments, florals, candles, jewelry and more; Sacred Ground located above the Popcorn Factory at Deep Creek Lake features Native American jewelry and pottery; and Country Treasures in McHenry offers Amish goods including furniture.

■ **Tour the Simon Pearce glass factory** — Watch and learn as glassblowers create fine Simon Pearce glassware at the Mountain Lake Park factory. For information, call (301) 334-5277.

■ **Visit historic Grantsville** — This picturesque National Road town was founded in 1785 and is punctuated by the Casselman Inn, built in 1842. Nearby is Spruce Forest Artisan Village, where visitors can interact with working craft artists inside log cabin studios and tour a historical museum, craft galleries, a one-room schoolhouse and Stanton's Mill. The village is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday from May to October. For information, call (301) 895-3332.

■ **Tour local working farms** — From alpacas to vineyards and trout to longhorns, Garrett County and nearby Preston County, W.Va., are home to nearly two dozen working farms. For a free brochure, call the Garrett County Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center, (301) 387-4386 or the Preston County Visitor's center, (800) 571-0912.

To Go:

■ The 3,900-acre Deep Creek Lake is tucked away in the Allegheny Mountains of Garrett County, Md., but it is an easy, two-hour, mostly interstate-highway jaunt from Wheeling. Take Interstate 70 East to I-79 South. At Morgantown, take I-68 East. Exit at Friendsville, Md., Route 42. Take 42 East and merge with 219 South, which passes through McHenry and runs right along the lake.

Note: To avoid I-70 traffic in Washington, Pa., exit at Taylorstown and follow Route 221 South to I-79 at Ruff Creek.

170 Woodland Forest
Winfield, WV 25213

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
Charleston, WV

ATTN: Public Comment
RE: Pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

As a frequent State Park visitor and VIPP member, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this pending legislation. Please do NOT allow pets in State Park cabins or lodge rooms.

One of the greatest joys of spending a week or weekend in a cabin in our parks is the opportunity to view wildlife up close. At Blackwater Falls, deer come almost to the front porch to graze in the early evening. In the mornings, we have been serenaded by songbirds as we woke to sunny mornings in the woods. Friends have described the same experiences at Pipestem, Canaan and other State Parks.

A barking dog, or perhaps even its scent, could end visits by deer in these locations for many vacations to come, or even prevent a serene night's sleep in a lodge room. A pouncing cat could end our morning serenade. Pets belong in their homes, not in the woods.

Another issue with allowing pets in cabins is the dander they leave behind. Visitors with dog or cat allergies would get sick staying in a cabin formerly occupied by a pet. Setting aside specific cabins for pets and their owners is not the answer. It unfairly limits lodging options for those with specific health issues. My son, for example, is allergic to cigarette smoke. On more than one occasion we have been unable to stay at private hotels because the only rooms left were smoking rooms. I would hate to see anyone miss out on the beauty of West Virginia's State Parks because of health issues surrounding pet dander. People are more important than pets.

Fleas and ticks carried in by these animals could also present health problems to future visitors. As a taxpayer, I don't want the additional burden that might arise from tort liabilities due to a visitor's exposure to diseases a jury might reasonably conclude came from an infested cabin.

Also, my tax dollars should not be spent repairing damage done by pets. It's a well known fact that many pets miss their owners during even a short time apart, often acting out by tearing up their own homes. These behaviors run the gamut from knocking over breakable items to clawing and gnawing on baseboards and furniture. An animal left alone for a few hours in unfamiliar surroundings could also exhibit these same behaviors

to express displeasure at their perceived abandonment. Others, who smelled the scent of other animals that had stayed there before them, would act out the instinct to "mark" their territory. Again, this could be become both a health issue and a legal liability.

If dogs and cats were allowed, who would decide which ones would be turned away? Would there be a weight limit? Would certain breeds be banned? Most owners would swear their Doberman or German Shepard would never bite anyone. Place an animal in a strange situation, however, and you honestly just don't know what it might do.

I know that, as a hiker, I'm much more afraid of encountering a strange dog on the trail than I am of most wild creatures. Wild creatures are as wary of me as I am of them. Dogs, however, can be down right scary, baring their teeth and growling to show either fear or to assert dominance. And you can bet that someone's cat or dog will get loose and be unable to find its way back to its owner's temporary home.

As a responsible pet owner myself, I have witnessed the irresponsible way some pet owners handle their animals. They think that because they love their pets, everyone else should accept them as well. Just this weekend, while camping at Camp Creek, I saw a man, with his dog on leash, standing outside the rest room waiting for someone. I was alerted to this scene because the animal was barking and leaping at other people entering the bath house. The man just stood there, vacantly holding the leash, as if he had no idea how much he was imposing on the experience of the other campers. Finally, the dog actually jumped up on a little girl riding by on her bicycle. The frightened child began screaming. The pet owner yelled through her screams that his dog wouldn't hurt her and that it had never bitten anyone. That did little to soothe the frightened child. Disgusting!

I love my own pets very much, and baby them to no end. I've owned cats, dogs, rabbits, horses and birds in my 48 years. However, not once did I consider imposing my pets on other people when I vacationed. Friends or family are usually available to care for them. If not, the kennel is an option. However bringing pets to a State Park cabin or lodge room would degrade the experience for both me and for other visitors.

It would degrade our experience in terms of viewing wildlife, it would degrade the experience for others who might be denied preferred accommodations due to their own health issues, and it would cause the limited funds earmarked for State Parks to be stretched even further to repair damage cause by these animals. Of course, owners could eventually be made financially responsible but, in the meantime, the State would pick up the tab to clean up and make repairs. Most cabins are reserved every week of the season, and they would have to be ready for the next family to occupy as scheduled.

For all these reasons, please do NOT allow pets in State Park cabins or lodge rooms. I hope you will consider my comments when making your final decision.

Sincerely,

Ellen Keefer and family

6-29-05

MR. Pope,

I Know it is late and I apologize, but I wish to add my support in <u>favor</u> of Allowing pets in cabins and lodges.

I'm sure this is not the simple act of changing a rule, as it may appear on the surface. The prospect of so many animals - nearly all of them dogs - hanging about and creating the noise and mess associated with them would certainly give cause for careful consideration. I can easily imagine some obnoxiously loud dog lunging against its restraint at the sight of every creature moving in the woods, then in all its excitement, dropping a healthy pile of dung - where it will lay until a poor groundskeeping or housekeeping employee removes it. That is because many dog owners are only slightly more domesticated than their pets. This creates a very real problem with balancing the need to attract park guests, while maintaining the very reason that people travel to our beautiful parks - the peace, tranquility and cleanliness of them.

One can logically assume that any rule change would require a seperation of "guests with pests" and guests without such. The most remote cabins and lodge rooms, probably. Nevertheless, with West Virginias topography, that loud dog - even tied to a remote cabin - could very easily be heard far through the park. That pile of dung, if not lying near the cabin would very likely be found on a trail, by a lake or in the picnic area. This will be the inevitable outcome, with our parks less tranquil, less pristine.

Still, I favor the rule change, and for purelly self serving reason. I am the owner of a fourteen pound Pekingese, a long-haired little, dependant creature. Quiet, self-canted and terribly attached to his owners, our dog is quite traumatized when left alone any length of time. Being a pure-bred and very spoiled, he simply does not do well in a kennel, and a dog-sitter leaves him still alone too much and then we are plagued with guilt. Nothing here will be news to you, it is all quite typical, I'm sure, so I join with other owners in the search for a

Tricia Sizemore

From: John T. Hutten [jt@hutten.us]

Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 8:02 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would favor a ruling which would allow pets to stay with their owners in cabins at WV State Parks.

My wife and I travel quite a bit with our Beagle and have NOT made arrangements for cabin rentals in WV SPs because of the current rulings. Our experience has been that pets who frequently travel with their owners are friendly, well behaved and that owners of such pets are quite responsible (keeping the pet under control, picking up outside droppings, and the like). I believe you are eliminating a whole group of potential "customers" with your current rules - I know you've eliminated us.

regards, jth

Tricia Sizemore

From: Deb Sibert [dsibert@westpenn-cdt.com]
ent: Monday, July 11, 2005 10:42 AM
fo: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i have a long haired chihuhua and i don't leave home without him. he goes out on the boat while we are fishing and if he is in the hotel room alone or at night he is caged. i keep him caged at night at home so i have been quite put out that we can't have our pets. i have ceased renting the cabins at hillbilly haven since they have adopted the policy of charging per night for the pets. i don't have a kid to take a bed. i can't write enough here for the approval of pets in the cabins and lodges in wva there isn't enough space. come on folks we are there to fish and enjoy the country. we are from pa and only travel to wva to fish and boat. we usually boat at stonewall jackson lake but since the lodge has purchased the marina and such we feel like they would rather not have the campers and boaters near their resort. the treatment has not been good. the prices are outrageous so i was searching for info for tygart. we have camped at rifle run and love it. thanks for the chance to voice my opinion. debra sibert from pa

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 8:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets-in-Park

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: DanAndDebS@aol.com [mailto:DanAndDebS@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 4:08 PM
To: John Pope
Subject: Pets-in-Park

This is in response to the pets-in-park survey. My husband and I are very much in favor of allowing pets in designated cabins and lodges. We have 3 dogs and they travel with us. We have taken them to island beaches to a condo and have stayed at several hotels. We only stay in accommodations that allow our pets to accompany us. We have never stayed in a state park cabin BECAUSE pets are not allowed. We have camped in the parks with them but would love to have the luxury of enjoying the parks throughout the year. Camping limits us to the warmer weather months.

We have noted that pets who travel with their people are clean, well-mannered, social, quiet and extremely well behaved. No place we have ever stayed has been harmed by the fact that dogs or other pets have been allowed to stay.

Two votes for pets-in parks!!!

Debbie and Daniel Shuck
PO Box 71
Daniels WV 25832
304-253-1885

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 8:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Park!!!

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Marsha Moore [mailto:marshamellow78@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 5:23 PM
To: John Pope
Subject: Pets in Park!!!

I have a family of 6 including our three dogs Abby, Jack and Katee. A pet can be just as part of a familyt as a child. Our dogs go almost eerywhere with us and I think that pets not being aloud in parks is crazy!!

Signed Dog lover....

Marsha Moore

TTFN
MARSHA

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 8:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Jennifer Thompson [mailto:jen4dar@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 09, 2005 11:35 PM
To: John Pope
Subject:

I would like to express my opinion about having pets allowed in the cabin areas at state parks.

Couldn't a few cabins be designated at each state park for pet owners? This way, those who are afraid of allergies would not be affected, as they could choose to stay in a cabin that pets are not allowed in.

Also, for those complaining of the possibility of dogs barking and waking them up... I have been subjected to people's screaming children for years and have not complained about it. I don't see where a dog barking would be much different.

Again, most people who take their pets on vacation with them are taking well-behaved, house-trained pets. Most people are not going to bring a flea-ridden, unwashed, untrained pet on vacation with them.

I don't see why a few cabins at each park could not be designated for animal lovers. A few dollars could be tacked on for cleaning purposes if need be. I am sure that most people who bring their pets on vacation with them would be more than willing to pay a few extra dollars so that their pet could come on vacation with them.

I seriously hope that my point of view is taken into consideration. I believe that more people would vacation in state parks if they were allowed to take their pets. I know that I would.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shrewsbury

Tricia Sizemore

From: Joe Skaggs [jskaggs@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 7:57 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am sorry that this letter is late, but until this past weekend I did not know that pets were not aloud at the cabins or lodges. I knew they were aloud in the campgrounds and just assumed that they were aloud in the cabins and lodge.

My family and I were traveling around Canaan Valley and that area over the weekend. We went into the lodge to book a cabin for later in the fall, we wanted to return and see the changing of the leaves. That is when we found out that pets were not aloud.

Pets are part of the family in almost all cases at least in my family's case. My family and I go nowhere without our pet.

I maybe can understand the lodges but I cannot understand the cabins. While in the lodge your next door "neighbor" may not like pets or have allergies but in a cabin you are by yourself.

I would like to see the policy change in all areas but if not in the lodge at least the cabins.



If you are afraid of damage, charge a refundable deposit. If no damage they get their money mailed to them, if there is damage then they pay for it. Maybe even take a credit card number like most of the hotels and motels are doing. They charge the credit card if towels or linen comes up missing. Part of the policy could be that if a customer finds damage, when they check in, they are to report it so they will not be charged.

There is no doubt that business would increase, I know it is not bad now, but you would have much more business if you would accept pets.

Just look around at the local motels and hotels. More and more are accepting pets due to the fact that more and more families are traveling with the family pet.

Unless the policy is changed before fall, you have lost my stay due to the fact that you will not take pets. While I will still return to the area to see the changing of the trees, I will be staying at a local motel. My money will go to the local economy but not to the state.

If this policy is changed, I would very much like to know. I would prefer staying in state run facilities due to the fact that the money goes to the state not some big out of state business. Also in most cases, the state run facility is in better up kept conditions that the out of state businesses.

Yours truly,
JW Skaggs
Rt. 1 Box 32
Arnoldsburg, WV 25234

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Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 8:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: keith furrow [mailto:k_fur0@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 10:23 AM
To: John Pope
Subject: pets

AS A PET LOVER AND A PET OWNER,I AM FOR HAVING YOUR PET WITH YOU.MY WIFE AND I NEVER HAD KIDS OF OUR OWN. MY DOG, (BABY) A SHIH-TZU , IS MY BABY.SHE GOES FISHING,HIKING,AND REALLY ENJOYS THE OUTDOORS.WE WOULD NEVER LEAVE HOME WITHOUT HER...MOST PEOPLE THAT TRAVEL WITH THERE PETS,KEEP THERE DOGS INSIDE, SO THEY ARE USUALLY CLEAN AND WELL GROOMED,EVEN THE LARGER DOGS ARE WELL BEHAVED INDOORS.. THE CABIN RENTALS ARE AT A MAXIMAM HIGH. THEY CAN AND WILL TAC ON ANOTHER FEE FOR YOUR PETS..MOST ROOMS ,CABINS ARE $100.00 + A NIGHT.WITH A USUAL TWO NIGHT MINIMUM. I SEE NO PROBLEM HAVING YOUR (PETS) EXTENDED PART OF YOUR FAMILY,WITH YOU ON YOUR MINNY VACATION..... .....THANKS.. R.K FURROW .. COOL RIDGE , WEST VIRGINIA.....

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 8:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

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I seriously hope that my point of view is taken into consideration. I believe that more people would vacation in state parks if they were allowed to take their pets. I know that I would.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Shrewsbury

Tricia Sizemore

From: Franzell8@aol.com

Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 5:03 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think allowing pets to stay in the lodges and cabins is a great idea. My husband travels for work and many times my son and I have to stay home simply because we cannot find a place to stay that allows pets. This would open up a lot more possibilities for us to find a place to stay if we knew all the parks allowed pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brian & Lana [themacks@citynet.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2005 4:42 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it's a great idea to allow pets in cabins/rooms. A lot of people travel with their pets and will go to those accommodations that allow pets which causes the state parks to lose out on that rental. I like to travel with my pet and would be willing to pay a refundable deposit to cover possible damages and to sign taking responsibility for any damages done by my pet. That will keep out those whose pets aren't well suited to travel.

I will be staying in a Greenbrier State Park Cabin in September but have to leave my dog with a sitter.

Lana McCormick
Buffalo, WV 25033

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sebastian Mudry [sebastianmudry@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 10:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: i have a comment on pets in cabins at wv state parks

Postscript to our previous e-mail in support of pets in cabins/lodge rooms:
We believe that all pets, dogs or cats, need to be keep on a leash at all times.
Thanks,

Sebastian Mudry
sebastianmudry@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wilson Lorre & Stephen [wilsfam@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 4:06 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Allowing small dogs and cats in cabins would be nice.
Deposits required, animals under 20 pounds, on a leash, clean up their "mess", also strongly urge a "quite time" - or, if your dog or cat barks, meows, after 10:00 pm at home, they probably will on vacation too, so for other visitors comfort, please keep your "talkative" animals at home. Another concern would be aggression. Some dogs (even small ones) & cats too I guess, can be aggressive toward strangers / children.
I would love for our Shih Tsu to accompany us when we stay at West Virginia parks - whether it be in a campground or cabin.
Thanks for listening!

Lorre Wilson
wilsfam@mac.com
(304) 733-0713 home
(304) 751-0826 cell
(304) 736-0000 work
1 Dunkles Hillview Villa
Barboursville, WV 25504

L
wilsfam@mac.com
(304) 733-0713 home
(304) 751-0826 cell
(304) 736-0000 work

Tricia Sizemore

From: rwinnell [rwinnell@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 1:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a pet loving West Virginian, I feel that I am being denied the opportunity to vacation in my own state. I love West Virginia's state parks, and have always wanted to stay in one of our beautiful, rustic cabins. But, where my dog is not welcome, neither am I. I certainly hope that you will permit pets to stay in cabins in our parks...I will be able to observe some of our own beauty.

Rick Winnell

Tricia Sizemore

From: Young, George (Huntington, WV) [youngg01@unisourcelink.com]
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2005 3:40 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

LET THEM IN THEY ARE SOME PERSONS LOVED ONE

D. A. "GEORGE" YOUNG
Unisource Worldwide
HUNTINGTON DISTRIBUTION CENTER
PHONE 1-304-522-0331 EXT. 43
FAX 1-304-522-7170
CELL 1-304-634-9550

Tricia Sizemore

From: Terry P. Sanner [terry.sanner@verizon.net]

Sent: Friday, July 08, 2005 10:03 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Public comments about pets.

I'm sending this in support of pets at WV State Parks and Forests.

As a child my "large" family sent two weeks every summer at one of the State Parks or Forests. Many of my fondest memories are from these vacations. Most of our childhood family photos are hiking, playing outdoors or cabin pictures. As a matter of fact, our first dog was an abandoned 57 variety at Greenbrier State Forest back in the early 60s.

Today we rarely visit our parks as we can't take the pets along and we won't kennel them. Our dogs are older and "very" well behaved. They are members of our family.
We always head to the mountains and cabins for the fall colors - but in Virginia or North Carolina where pets are welcome. Also, finding someone to take care of the pets (as a last resort kennels) is extremely expensive - usually costing more than the cabin rental.

I understand both sides of the issue (allergies, careless owners, etc). However, surely a small numbers of cabins could be "pet friendly" and a strict lease restriction enforced.

I have voiced my opinion about this issue in the past to no avail. As my whole family is responding - we hope to see changes soon.

Thanks

Bonnie Sanner (The Fowler Family)

Tricia Sizemore

From: William Douglass [DSPNSports@msn.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:01 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My wife and I are native West Virginians who love the state and its natural beauty. We greatly enjoy the state parks and forests but do not currently stay at the cabins because of the pet restriction. We have two wonderful Afghan hounds; quite regal dogs; and take them with us everywhere. They have stayed in fine hotels across the country and spend two weeks each year at luxury home in the Outer Banks in North Carolina. I find it strange that our pets can stay in luxury accommodations at many locations but are not allowed to stay at a log cabin in the forest!! If you implement a security deposit or require credit card information for any damages, then there should be no concern about pets in the cabins. We request that you change the rule so we can enjoy our state parks with the pets we love.

Doug Douglass
Douglass Sports Negotiations (DSPN)
304-550-3789
dspnsports@msn.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rpm1design@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 1:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Rpm1design@aol.com
Subject: PETS VOTING YES

WE TRAVEL WITH OUR PETS AND HAVE TO STAY AT MOTELS. THEN VISIT WV ST PARKS IN THE AREA OF THE MOTEL. WEST VIRGINIA COULD BE USING THIS MOTEL MONEY THAT WE PET OWNERS ARE SPENDING ON LODGING. REAL PET OWNERS WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM PAYING A PET CHARGE. WE ARE MISSING OUT ON THE STATE PARK LODGING EXPERIENCE. BUT OUR BELOVED PETS COME FIRST. THEY ARE OUR CHILDERN AND WON'T LEAVE THEM AT A KENNEL.WE WOULD LOVE TO WAKE UP TO THE SOUNDS OF NATURE ALL AROUND US.WE USUALLY GET UP AT 5 AM LEAVE THE MOTEL TO DO THIS.MOST OF US PET OWNERS ARE ELDERLY AND CAMPING IS OUT OF THE QUESTION. SO PLEASE GIVE US PET OWNERS A CHANCE. THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF PET OWNERS US AND PET OWNERS WHO OWN ANIMALS. WE LOVE TO PHOTOGRAPH WATERFALLS IN EARLY MORNING AND SUNSET AS A HOBBY. STAYING IN A CABIN WOULD BE WONDERFULLLL AND MAYBE ALITTLE ROMANIC FOR THIS OLD COUPLE.HA HA

RONALD L. MANNING
PO BOX 190
CULLODEN,WV 25510
RPM1DESIGN@AOL.COM
304-743-0008

Tricia Sizemore

From: LinHrm9@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 1:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would like to see some pet allowed cabins in the state parks. We would have rented several times if we could bring our dog. Thank you. L. Harmon

Tricia Sizemore

From: RLM3651@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 12:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: RLM3651@aol.com
Subject: PETS IN CABINS

WE HAVE GONE TO ELEVEN STATE PARKS THIS YEAR ALONE. WE ARE ON A SCAVENGER HUNT WIH OUR VIPP CARDS TAKING OUR TWO GRANDCHILDERN WITH US. WE ALSO WOULD LOVE TO STAY AT STATE PARKS WITH OUR ANIMALS AS WELL. WE NOW STAY AT MOTELS. WHY NOT DO A POINT SYSTEM WITH PET OWNERS. IF YOU LEAVE THE CABIN/LODGE AREA CLEAN/UNDAMAGED YOU ARE MAILED OR E-MAILED A GOOD PET OWNER NUMBERED PASS. THAT PASS HAS DATE NAME AND PARK YOU STAYED AT. SO NO FAKE PASSES CAN BE MADE,HOPRFULLY. YOU COULD CHARGE A PET FEE LIKE MOTELS DO. WE ARE LOOKING FOREWARD TO STAYING AS A WHOLE FAMILY AT WV STATE PARKS.

R. L. MANNING
3000 BENEDICT ROAD
CULLODEN,WV 25510
RLM3651@AOL.COM

Tricia Sizemore

From: Theodorehalstead@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 11:00 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: PETS IN PARKS

Tricia:

I have lost my postcard on allowing pets in cabins in state parks. So, please consider us for allowing pets in parks and in cabins and lodges.

After all, pets are not any worse than some people, and are comfort to most people, especially seniors. Please allow pets in cabins, even if you have to require a deposit.

This is from: Theodore R. Halstead and Luella M. Halstead. Our home address is 141 Valley Drive, Nitro, WV 25143-1132. Our phone number is: (304) 776-3677 We are both members of VIPP. Email address is theodorehalstead@aol.com.

Ted Halstead

Tricia Sizemore

From: JTMJR3@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 11:22 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

Of course we still visit our state parks now, but only a short amount of time is spent at the park. Most of the time is spent driving to and from. It didn't use to be that way. For six years I took my family to North Bend State Park. We always stayed in the same cabin, it became our home away from home. I remember how we looked forward to that trip. We'd make reservations almost a year in advance just to get the date we wanted. Great times, great memories! Then one day after we already had our reservations for that year, a letter came from the DNR. It stated that we wouldn't be able to take one of our family members in the cabin- Sophie, our pug. She was only 18 inches long and 10 inches tall, but someone in Charleston had made the decision that my whole family couldn't stay in ANY cabin in ANY state park ever again. So what does a father do when people tell him his family isn't welcomed? That's right, he finds some place else to spend his time with his family. It's been ten years or longer since that day...it would be nice to go back to that "Home away from Home". I hope this time you make the right decision, it's not often you get a second chance. YES, let's allow pets in the cabins again.
JT Martin

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ron Klein [aims@erols.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 9:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Allow dogs as lpng as owners pick up.

Ron Klein

Tricia Sizemore

From: viking2 [viking2@citynet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 8:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "public comments about pets"

Our pets are part of our family, behave like one of us. We definitely BELIEVE pets should be allowed in parks. We travel in a motor home, sometimes in lodges and think our pets should be allowed. They are all potty trained and we do pick up after them when in the park. Thank you for your consideration.
WVIPP MEMBERS APRIL AND VIRGINIA KING

Tricia Sizemore

From: drema taylor [dremataylor46@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 6:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks also camp sites,

Please let us bring our pets to all state parks, in w.va. we are older retired people and we have had our pets as our family members for years, and we retired to camp and enjoy life,, and this keeps us home,,, because our pet is not use to being away from us and he is 6 years old now,,, We keep him Vet, check and groomed and on a leach at al times, this would be a great help if we all could enjoy camping as other people that don't perfer not to have pets....

Thanks Rev. Drema and James Taylor @ drema taylor 46 @yahoo.com

and : HCR 61 BOX 203
Robson,
W.VA. 25173 1-304 779-2995

Sell on Yahoo! Auctions - No fees. Bid on great items.

Tricia Sizemore

From: gary [gkh66@wowway.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 6:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

yes you should allow pets in cabins but not so much lodge rooms

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susana Miller [greenthumb76@isp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 2:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We were planning a vacation to a WV State Park which we will probably cancel, due to the fact I could not bring my dog. Virginia allows them, why not WV?

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lynn Westberg [lwestberg@data-advantage.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 12:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Sensitivity: Confidential

I am totally in favor of it. I hope they do this in all parks nation-wide.

Lynn A. Westberg
Data Advantage Corp.
1515 Story Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206
502/779-4983

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Siegrist, Andrew [Andrew.Siegrist@ERIeInsurance.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 11:32 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would suggest that only certain cabins that are separated from other cabins be designated for use with pets.

Andy Siegrist

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Kyle, Tonya R [Tonya.R.Kyle@erac.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 10:49 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would love to bring our well-behaved Lab to the cabins. I think the family has fun taking their pets on vacation with them instead of boarding them up somewhere. I think people that do this should clean up after their pet.

It's all how you are raised I guess! I think you should allow this though!! Thanks

Tonya Kyle

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dolmetsch, Christopher [dolmetsc@marshall.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 9:15 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello from a West Virginia Family!

As residents of the Mountain State for the past 24 years, we have always wanted to have the opportunity to visit the outstanding parks and recreational areas of this state. Our one problem for the past fifteen years is that we own a small indoor house cat whose somewhat delicate health and temperment have made it next-to-impossible for us to travel without her. We have had little difficulty finding accommodations in urban areas that accept pets, sometimes with a modest "sanitation fee," and we would certainly welcome the same opportunity at our state parks. We have no objection to a pet fee to insure that lodging is well maintained, and we have no objection to rooms that are specifically designated as "pet allowed" versus "no pets allowed."

I think there should be limits as to the number of pets per room, clearly one or two at most would be manageable and I also think the size of the room should be considered when allowing for pets. Larger dogs would clearly be better accommodated in larger rooms or suites. We have discovered that our small cat is happiest when the room size is ample and allows for some "exploration." Likewise, for animals used to being outdoors at times, a "pet walking" area with requirements for owners to clean up after pets would be valuable. For the safety of smaller children, such "pet friendly" areas should be clearly designated and owners should be made aware of their responsibilities (a small brochure would be very handy here).

I hope I have given you some helpful suggestions and input. We plan to spend the day at Hawks Nest State Park this Saturday without our cat since the roundtrip drive is relatively short. However, we would welcome a chance to be able to spend the night at many of the more distant parks. Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Cordially,

Christopher & Nona Dolmetsch
47 Western Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526-9547

Ph: 304-562-3966
e-mail: dolmetsc@marshall.edu

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 8:42 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Parks!

-----Original Message-----
From: Lisa Huey [mailto:lisa.huey.i5jx@statefarm.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 4:47 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Parks!

Hello,

I am a life-long resident of WV and due to my job involving approx 6 months of travel away from WV each year I spend most of my vacation's in WV.

I have always had to spend additional time trying to find accommodation's that will allow my Golden Retriever-Irish Wolfhound Mix, Tedi to stay. Luckily there are enough other dog owner's who run these establishment's that I am usually able to find something. During these stay's over the last 4 years I have walked through several state parks and thought, it is so beautiful, I wish I could stay here. I think allowing animals to stay at least in certain rooms/cabins would be great, to accommodate those with allergies. For those of us who are unwilling to take vacations without our pets or have a pet that for whatever reason is unable to be left at a kennel it would be wonderful to have a rustic place to stay in WV. I also don't think you will find that anyone who travels with a pet would mind a reasonable cleaning fee, we expect it and being able to have our pets enjoy our vacations with us makes it more than worthwhile.

Thank You for considering changing this rule!

Lisa Huey
Charleston, WV
304-776-6406 Home
304-444-9581 Cell

Tricia Sizemore

From: KAMPE1@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 1:06 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think that if the parks could designate specific cabins/facilities for pet use, like many hotels/motels designate smoking and non-smoking rooms, this could satisfy those patrons who wish to bring their pets and at the same time satisfy the patrons who do not wish to stay in a cabin/room where pets have been kept. Additionally, a pet deposit should be required in advance and refunded upon inspection of the facility. Along with the deposit the pet owner should be required to sign a certification stating that their pet is not aggressive and acknowledge any liability issues that go along with the pet. I would hope that the parks would enforce leash or control laws and dog dropping clean up to ensure that pet owners will pick up after their pets. Many locations now place dog dropping/popper scooper convenience receptacles through out their properties to help with the pick up of poop!

Thank you,
Mark and Andrea Kampe

Tricia Sizemore

From: clyde ferrell.jr. [cnf4jr2c@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 12:14 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

SURE YOU SHOULD AS LONG AS THEY ARE ON A LEASH AND DON'T BARK ALL THE TIME.

Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: blake cicenas [fornitsumfornis@lycos.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 9:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To whom this may concern:

As to having pets in lodges and cabins, I believe it is an ok idea. The majority of pets are well behaved, and it shouldn't be a problem. Plus, it might bring more people to the lodges and cabins and that of course will bring in more revenue. I highly doubt there will be a loss of people because of this legislation. Well, I suppose that is my two cents, thanks for letting me express it!

Blake Cicenas

--

NEW! Lycos Dating Search. The only place to search multiple dating sites at once. http://datingsearch.lycos.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Delbert L. Cox [wvmailman2000@lucasisp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 9:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

Pets should be allowed. Just add some rules, ie If your pet is noisy or unruley, you will be asked to leave. Any damage by your Pet, you have to pay for the repairs.

Most Pet owners have nice pets that they like to acompany them where they go.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Fourleggourmet@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 5:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Dogs allowed in WV state parks

I'd like to request a change of policy regarding dogs in WV state parks. i would request that you allot certain areas for responsible dog owners.

thank you,

Bone Appetit,
Nancy Hurley
Four Leg Gourmet Dog Bakery and Gift Shop
1588 Washington Street East
Charleston, WV 25311
304 342 9445
fourleggourmet@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nancy Nicholson [nancy@ptiinc.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 5:01 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a pet owner, I think it would be a great idea to allow pets to stay in the cabins. I am always looking for places to enjoy with my dog.

To answer the fears of people worried about a pet-friendly policy, I would say that people who travel with their pets tend to be extremely responsible about their pets behavior. They wouldn't allow a pet to destroy the facilities.

You could keep some cabins as no pets for those with allergies. A slight additional fee could be required as well as a refundable security deposit against damage.

Thank you for considering this new policy.

Nancy Nicholson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Craig Cribbs [cribbz@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 12:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pet Comments

July 5, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear JR,

We've been meaning to write to you regarding this topic for a long time, but just had not gotten around to it. But when the notice came out inviting public comments about pets in cabins and lodges of the state parks we wanted to be sure our view is expressed.

Although we do not live in West Virginia, much of our family does and we enjoy vacationing there. In fact, we love it so much, we make a point of it several times per year. However, we don't spend as much time vacationing within the state parks due to the pet restrictions. We have a dog we like to travel with and we do camp some since we can bring him, but we also enjoy staying in cabins or lodges within the state parks. Since we cannot bring our pet to the cabins or lodges, we look for other accommodations, or we sometimes opt to stay home instead of boarding our pet for the weekend. We have several other family and friends who are in the same situation (some who do not camp even) and we have often had conversation about how nice it would be if the state parks allowed pets in the cabins (at least). We would all definitely visit the state parks more if we could bring our pets.

Realizing irresponsible pet owners are a main concern we would suggest a pet deposit be required of those patrons bringing pets. We recommend part of the deposit be refundable if the room or cabin were in the same condition as when the patrons arrived; this would encourage people to clean up after their pets and help to minimize damage to furniture and landscape. A $100 pet deposit is fair in our estimation, with $75 being refunded if the patrons are responsible in their stay. Here are some other suggestions:

- Pet walking areas where people can take their pets to do their business
- "Pet" rooms designated for pets (akin to smoking and non-smoking); near side or back entrances and away from main areas for reasons of noise and convenience for walking, etc.
- Waste receptacles and "do-do bags" throughout the park to encourage clean up.
- Fining of individuals who do not clean up after their pets outside of the designated pet areas

With more and more people traveling with pets as part of the family, it seems a significant piece of revenue is going to places that are pet friendly when it could be going to our state parks. Minimally we would like to see the cabins opened up for pets, but would love it if lodge rooms were also available.

Thank you for your consideration of this topic.

Sincerely,
Craig and Jamie Copenhaver Cribbs
111 Longview Avenue
Mingo Junction, OH 43938

7/6/2005

(740) 282-7653
cribbz@comcast.net

7/6/2005

Tricia Sizemore

Duplicate
See sabannseg@aol.com

From: SEGARRAFITNESS@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 11:16 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am for the allowance of pets in cabins and lodges at WV State Parks. These are family outing locations and pets are considered family members. I believe that if pets are no longer allowed to accompany their families, WV State Parks may lose more money than they would have ever thought possible. In this day and age dogs are used not only for companionship, but also for protection. I would not go camping without taking my dog, even in a cabin. While sleeping many people sleep so soundly they aren't aware of anyone coming into their surroundings whereas a dog will always alert their owners of such things.
Sabrina Segarra

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sabannseg@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 11:14 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am for the allowance of pets in cabins and lodges at WV State Parks. These are family outing locations and pets are considered family members. I believe that if pets are no longer allowed to accompany their families, WV State Parks may lose more money than they would have ever thought possible. In this day and age dogs are used not only for companionship, but also for protection. I would not go camping without taking my dog, even in a cabin. While sleeping many people sleep so soundly they aren't aware of anyone coming into their surroundings whereas a dog will always alert their owners of such things.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Myers, Brenda (BC) [myersbc@dow.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 10:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: WV DNR Policy Prohibiting Dogs in Cabins and Lodges

Expires: Wednesday, July 05, 2006 12:00 AM

Tricia,

Many thanks for conducting this poll to reconsider the WVO DNR policy of prohibiting dogs in cabins and lodges in our state parks. I have written letters previously about this matter and sincerely hope that this policy will change.

My nine year old Shetland Sheepdog is better behaved than most children. He is well trained and IS my only family. I would very much like to be able to take advantage of the lovely facilities our state parks offer, but am unable to do so unless my dog can accompany me. Thus, I spend vacations outside of West Virginia at facilities where pets are allowed to accompany their owners.

Again, sincere thanks for this effort. Please let me know the results.

Kind Regards,
Brenda Myers

Brenda C. Myers
Human Resources Development
Global LearnLinc Administrator
The Dow Chemical Company
West Virginia Operations
Phone: (304) 747.4685 Fax: (304) 747.3122 Cell: (304) 546.0274
Email myersbc@dow.com <mailto:myersbc@dow.com>



Tricia Sizemore

From: krystal.curtis@att.net
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 9:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

This is to endorse the idea of allowing pets in the cabins in WV state parks. I believe there should be rules for the pets and pet owners - clean up after your pet at all times, not to allow your pet to be a bother (noise or otherwise) to the other visitors, and pets must be leashed at all time. I am sure the state DNR will make an informed decision.

Thank you,
Krystal D. Curtis
4398 Cherry Run Road
Hedgesville, WV 25427

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sally Caraway [CarawayS@steptoe-johnson.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 9:24 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: dogs allowed in state parks

Good morning, Ms. Sizemore.

I wish to express my support of the WV DNR's move to allow dogs in the lodges and cabins of state parks. I hike each weekend, month in and out, and would rent cabins in the state park and forest system if my dog were allowed. As it is, I try to find private pet-friendly hotels and cabins in the area of Watoga and other parks and then make use of the park for hiking. If I were able to bring my dog, the state would certainly get my money! I would be willing to make a non-refundable pet deposit, which is generally required by hotels and private cabins.

Please let me know when a decision is reached regarding this matter and thank you very much.

SAlly Caraway
1584 Nottingham Road
Charleston, WV 25314

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Steptoe & Johnson PLLC

****

Tricia Sizemore

From: mary russell [wvu52@ezwv.com]

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 7:50 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom it May Concern, PLEASE, PLEASE permit pets to stay with their owners in WV State Parks. Those of us who are responsible owners deserve to have the right to do so. Boarding our pets is expensive and takes away from the totall family enjoyment of being together. If it is a question of annoyance—set the rules for owners and pets and make people sign upon entering...subject to fines for noncompliance. I think you will see a tremendous increase in reservations. We need to do this—hotels all over the USA offer this — why not us? Thanks, Mary Russell

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rosemary Pollard [rpollardva@verizon.net]

Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 1:21 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Cc: cbradley@dtiglobal.com

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear West Virginia DNR,

First of all, I want to say that I have visited Berkeley Springs for the last two years for long weekends and I have brought my dog along for both trips. I plan to make Berkeley Springs an annual destination. We researched places to stay that would allow pets and were disappointed to discover that WV state parks do not allow pets in the cabins so the first year we rented a private pet-friendly cabin and last year we rented a private pet-friendly suite right over an apothecary shop right in the middle of town! There were absolutely no problems with either location and we have been invited back to both places.

I love Berkeley Springs for the same reasons everyone else does, i.e., a beautiful destination, lots of recreation, not too far from home, etc. but mostly because it seems to be such a great place to bring the dog along and so many lodge owners are willing to welcome them. In turn, I am more than happy to turn over my hard-earned money to folks who will accommodate my pet. In fact, even if I am traveling without my pet on some trips, I tend to reserve lodging at places that welcome pets to thank them for being so accommodating.

As timing would have it, friends and I are coming to Berkeley Springs on July 8 for a long weekend and we are bringing our dogs. Once again, we had a large list of private pet friendly cabins to pick from and found a great one. But it also seems a shame to me that the West Virginia State Parks are missing out on a large and ever growing segment of money-spending society that enjoys vacationing with their pampered pets. I hope you will amend your rules to accommodate people with pets in at least some of your cabins. My experience has been that people who travel with their dogs are responsible dog owning individuals with well mannered pets (or why on earth would we want to bring them along?). I appreciate the fact that you want to give this careful thought but surely there is plenty of room for all of us.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on this topic!

Rosemary Pollard
6496 Windham Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22315
(703) 971-0519

Tricia Sizemore

From: R. Kimble [rkimble@cstone.net]

Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 8:30 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe that pets should be allowed. After all, pets to most people are just like children. In addition, most people that would bring their pets live with them in their own house. These people have their pets trained not to do destructive things indoors or use the bathroom indoors. As for the others who do not have their pets trained as well, charge a surcharge that covers pets to take care of any extra cleaning that may be necessary following an accident or an irresposible owner.

These are my thoughts on the matter. I have used WV state park cabins in the past and plan to do so in the future.

Signed - West Virginia Native now living in Virginia,
Ryan Kimble
Palmyra, VA
Ph.: 434-591-6107

Tricia Sizemore

From: Keif@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2005 9:51 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

My husband and I always considered our dogs as part of our family. Early in our married life we vacationed at many West Virginia state park lodges and had family sit for our dogs at home.

Later, we rented camp sites at WV state parks in order to take our dogs on vacation with us, although at times we were unable to rent sites at parks such as Stonewall Jackson without reserving in advance and we had to use alternative campgrounds nearby.

We truly enjoy the nature and beauty of our West Virginia state parks and would appreciate and use rental cabins and lodge rooms should pets be allowed, as we enjoy spending time hiking and enjoying the many trails at WV state parks.

We, as West Virginia taxpayers, and as responsible pet owners who clean up after our pets and use medicines to prevent fleas, parasites and diseases support legislation to allow pets in our state park cabins and would be willing to reserve cabins and lodge rooms at WV state parks and prepay a refundable deposit if necessary in order to vacation with our pets.

Mr & Mrs Keith Boyce
1615 Pleasant Valley Road
Fairmont, WV 26554

Tricia Sizemore

From: TJacks1943@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2005 8:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Our dog is very precious to me and my wife. We consider her a member of the family and take her along on all our trips.

We would love to be allowed to take her on trips, and stay in the Lodges,etc here in WV.

Needless to say, we hope that WV DNR would strongly consider allowing cats, and dogs be able to stay in the Lodges, etc.

Tom & Thelma Jackson
East Lynn WV-

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robin Arnicar [rarnicar@adelphia.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2005 3:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i am for this, however i think a security deposit of some sort would be in order to ensure damages are covered.
robin arnicar
ranson, wv

Tricia Sizemore

From: barbara ferrell [thlady2002003@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2005 2:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

yes I do think you should allow pets to be in the cabin areas, because there are some pets that think they're human I have a cat and she goes everywhere the family goes she leashed trained just like a dog, and as long as the persons bring the pets are willing to clean up after them whether their a dog or a cat, and willing to be responisible for them if them tear up anything, persons with dogs should carry pooper scoopers with them and clean up dog poo, and through it away, cause cats have litter boxes. Thank You Barbara Ferrell, Orgas Wva,25148

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Tricia Sizemore

From: CharlotteAretta@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2005 11:09 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, I do believe that pets should be allowed in state park cabins. If you keep them in your home, why not let them be in a cabin? My vote is a strong YES.

Sincerely,
Charlotte McKeever Emswiler

Tricia Sizemore

From: Vmaxineesiotrot1@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, July 02, 2005 9:28 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore,

We just returned from a vacation in Virginia, where pets are welcome as long as they are well-behaved and/or on a 6-ft. leash. We were pleased to learn that pets could stay at motels, also, even if it did cost extra. Many people do not travel because they would have to board their pets. We think it would be only reasonable to pay extra for the cabin. However the cost should not be more than it would cost to board the animal or animals. Perhaps a deposit that could be reurned if there was no damage could be considered.

We are completely in favor of pets vacationing with their people in cabins in state parks.

Sincerely,

Maxine Burr-Neff

David L. Neff

Tricia Sizemore

From: Diane Harrison [harrisoncircus@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 02, 2005 5:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I encourage that pets be allowed in cabins and possibly lodge rooms. A number of hotels are doing this now and it is such a great help to pet owners who consider their pets part of the family. Many times I find the pets behaving more than the children. In a rustic environment such as state parks its only natural to allow this. Of course, maintaining the dog on a leash outside of the cabin/room is required and should be not only for the safetly of the dog but the safetly and pleasure of others at the location. Some hotels charge a surcharge for pets - for extra cleaning - - as I've said, the kids usually make more of a mess than the pets.

Thank you for listening.

Diane, Russ, Liam, and Keegah (our Alaskan Malamute)

Yahoo! Sports
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Tricia Sizemore

From: Carolyn Starcher [mud@kvinet.com]

Sent: Saturday, July 02, 2005 12:17 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am an animal lover and I am all for animals staying with their owners if the owner is responsible for their pet. I also think it is worth it to pay a little extra for this convenience.

Tricia Sizemore

From: LaughTrax@aol.com

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 9:12 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Re:Legislation to Allow Pets in State Park Cabins

To Whom This May Concern:
Domesticated pets should be allowed. Regulations should stipulate that families be responsible for containment at the rental site and assuring that they leave the premises as they were found upon arrival. (Including cleaning up animal waste products and avoidance of any destruction). Thank you for your time.
Mona Poland

Tricia Sizemore

From: Butcher, Mary E. [butcherm1@wscc.edu]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 4:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

July 1, 2005

Dear Mr. Pope:

I feel that overnight park guests should allow to bring their dogs and/or cats with them in cabins and possibly lodge rooms. Before bringing pets was disallowed, my husband and I brought our cat along to stay with us in the cabin. Our cat did no damage because she was good about using her litter box. She has also been declawed so that she could not climb the cabin curtains. The park could designate certain cabins where pets are allowed just as smoking and nonsmoking rooms are designated. This policy would protect people who are allergic to pet dander.

Boarding pets is expensive, and so are pet sitting services. Some pets refuse to eat while being boarded because of separation anxiety from their owners.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Sincerely,

Mary Butcher
butcherm1@wscc.edu

—
[This E-mail scanned for viruses by Declude Virus]

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mozingo, Martha [Spalding@marshall.edu]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 2:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom It May Concern:
I would encourage you to consider accepting well-behaved dogs in state parks. You can have the visitor sign a form stating they will abide by the policies, which should include a vet certificate of health, agreement to keep the dog under control at all times, and that they will pick up dog waste. You can also have an exclusion clause for breeds considered risky, such as pit bulls, pit mixes, and rottweilers.

thanks

Martha Spalding Mozingo
Coordinator, Sponsored Programs
Marshall University Graduate College
100 Angus E. Peyton Drive
South Charleston WV 25303
(304) 746-1998
spalding@marshall.edu

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Tricia Sizemore

From: I-64 Eastbound Welcome Center [i64east@tourism.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 1:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

WE are for the,.allowing pets in State
Parks. Many tourist travel with there pets, which makes it impossible for them to stay in State Parks or lodges. WV will
will make more money, if pets are allowed. WV tourism are for it!!!!
WE work for The Divison of Tourism in Huntington WV.
Have a great day!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna [dmgraham@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 11:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

We are in favor of allowing dogs in park cabins but not the lodge rooms. The cabin facilities are better suited for large breed dogs.

Thank you,
Robert and Donna Graham

Tricia Sizemore

From: dennis costello [dcostello@citynet.net]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 10:12 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Our dogs are part of our family, we take them when we camp or travel. I say yes, most people with pets are responsible adults, let us bring our pets inside Thank you Dennis Costello Ripley

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ladydeb107@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 9:46 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I definitely think pets should be allowed in state parks as long as they are on a leash when outdoors. We have three dogs and are unable to take vacations or last minute getaways because of all the pet restrictions. Make your cabins and rooms more pet friendly and I guarantee you will see a rise in your bookings!

Thanks, and I hope the change starts soon...we really need a vacation. LOL

Debbie White
Shinnston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bennett, Harold W [harold_bennett@merck.com]
ent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 11:41 PM
fo: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not have a problem with pets in the cabins but there should be a security deposit in case of accidents. Perhaps some cabins could be designated for pet like smoking rooms in motels. That way someone allergic to cats for example would not get a cabin that had cats in it.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Heartwood [heartwood@hussworks.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 9:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please allow pets in the cabins.

Tricia Sizemore

From: NEALOS55@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 8:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in the Park System

It is refreshing to see that your state agency is reviewing the current policy regarding pets in our state park system. As bred, born and raised West Virginians, my wife of thirty years, and I have always been drawn to every aspect of our great state's park system. She and I routinely spent our vacations and weekends exploring and experiencing the beauty of West Virginia through our parks. We were always occupied by our dog, a black, 110 lb. flat coated, Labrador Retriever named Ebony. Our frequency of stay in the cabins of Pipestem, Canaan Valley, Blackwater Falls and Kumbrabo produced friendships of accquaintance with park rangers, park workers and local retailers. Since Big Ebony was always by our side, he actually became a recognized patron and even recieved letters addressed to him, as a reminder to book our annual or bi-annual visits to the various parks.

Unfortunitely, the state revised the park system pet rules and prohibited pets from the cabin system. Although, Ebony has passed away our love of dogs has remained and we now have 3 dogs that have traveled the entire east coast, staying in hotels, motels, and rental beach houses. It has now been many years since we have spent our vacations in our home state, because our pets are part of our family and they will be included in our vacation time.

I believe that the state parks are avoiding increased revenue throigh cabin rentals by banning pets. There are many families that vacation with their pets, and do so responsibly. There are several management techniques of fees and / or deposits that provide for financial recovery associated with cleaning and damage liabilities that exist because of the few irresponsible individuals, Quiet honestly, the behavior of some children far exceed the damage and hygene concerns typically associated with pets.

My wife and I would like to recommend that the state parks system reverse it's current position and elect to allow pets, and native West Virginian"s to return home to the hills and parks of West Virginia.

Sincerely yours,

Mike & Shelia Neal
729 First Avenue, South
Nitro, WV 25143

Tricia Sizemore

From: Laura Miller [lmiller@ag.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 5:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I definitely support the idea of allowing pets in cabins, and even lodge rooms at State Parks and Forests.

So many pet owners like to travel to forests precisely because their pets can be in an opened and natural environment that they can't get at home, especially when they live in cities where sometimes not even a local park is available and many pet owners won't even travel sometimes because they have to leave their animals at home, and when they do, if they don't have some friend or relative to take care of their pets, they have to take them to a kennel where they will be even more miserable than at home, not to mention that a kennel can be very expensive.

I think that people that want to stay in a room or cabin with their pets in a Sate Park because they prefer that over camping , should also have the right to do so. All that is needed is a good set of rules for pet owners to follow, including maybe certain pet areas around the cabins and lodge, so other people without pets won't be disturbed and so it is fair to everyone.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cemantha [cwoody@cebridge.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 4:51 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

My opinion about a possible rule change concerning pets is as follows. I believe it would be fine to allow pets in the cabin or lodge areas with stipulation of course. There should be designated areas and rooms for pets and their owners and they would need to clean up after them.
We enjoy camping at the WV State Parks and have also spent time at different Lodges and Cabins and although we do not bring our dogs, I know that my in-laws would not be able to come or go on vacation, unless they did bring their pets. I however do believe there should be some consideration for those people who do not like pets or own them.
Sincerely,
Cemantha Woody

Tricia Sizemore

From: andersonj@usa.redcross.org

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 1:54 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would visit more state parks if my wife and I could take our dog along with us. I am in favor of accepting pets in cabins and also realize that guidelines and restrictions would be necessary. I would also understand if damage deposits would be required to cover any damage caused by pets. My wife and I enjoy outdoor activities with our dog and would enjoy them more if we could bring him along while we visit the wonderful and beautiful state parks that WV has to offer.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment on this issue and I hope this helps in bringing a change to the pet policy.

Sincerely,

Joey Anderson
124 Middle Coach Road
Hurricane, WV 25526

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 11:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Renee Morris [mailto:scwvteacher@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 10:46 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Parks

I would like to comment on allowing pets in parks. The majority of people who would want their pets to accompnay them on vacation are dog owners. I hope that the park system can come up with a plan to allow people to bring their dogs and stay in the cabins at state parks. West Virginia is a jewel when it comes to its park system and I would love to stay in the cabins, but we like to take our dog with us. So we are forced to stay in properties outside the park system. Most rental web sites offer properties where dogs are welcomed. We have stayed in some lovely propeties, clean and well-maintained that allow dogs. Our favorite place to stay in Canaan is Deerfield Village and they have several beautiful units that allow dogs. I've never felt that we have had to sacrifice quality because we wanted to stay in a unit that allows dogs. Also, these properties are so well- maintained that you would not know if a dog had been a previous guest. Most dog owners are very respectful of the property and will not allow their pet to abuse this priveledge. The park system could specify certain cabins for pets and require a pet deposit. Most places require this and pet owners are only too happy to comply if it means they can bring their pets on vacation. I think there can be a solution to this dilemma and I hope it is resolved soon. R. Morris

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Kathy Clegg [karu@netassoc.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 11:01 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom It May Concern:

I would love to see the state park cabins rules be changed in order to allow dogs. Coming from a family of loyal dog owners we always try to include our dogs on outings as much as possible. I think dog owners would be willing to pay a pet deposit in order to be able to enjoy the state park cabins. In the past we have had to resort to private cabins in order to take our dog with us. We will under no circumstances board our dog, so if we can't find someone to come in and dog sit we just don't go. I think in todays society dog owners think of of their pets as an integral part of the family, and as such they go the extra mile to make sure their dogs are well behaved and pleasant to be around.

Please change the rules and allow dogs and my husband and I would be one of the first pet owners to take advantage of the new rules.

Thank you.

Kathy Clegg
140 Sharon Street
Mineral Wells. WV 26150

Tricia Sizemore

From: MIMHO6@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 10:39 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Sir or Madam,

Absolutely, do allow pets to lodge with us in state parks. I am currently online searching for a vacation place that will allow pets. Pet friendly accommodations are a must these days to keep up with the times. You will see an increase in the usage of the parks when this is allowed. Please pass this! Thank you,

Marci Imhoff, Wheeling

Tricia Sizemore

From: mmcfee@nisource.com
`ent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 7:48 AM
,o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks - PLEASE ALLOW

I have enjoyed every state park I have visited, many times with my dog. I have also rented and enjoyed the wonderful cabins at a few of these parks (before we got a dog). I am in favor of accepting pets at the cabins, as long as there are restrictions that will ensure the quality and preservation of these structures long into the future. I would recommend and gladly pay an appropriate fee for pets as well as placing a deposit to cover any possible pet damage.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and your solicitation of public comments. My wife and I have always wanted to return to Senca Lake and rent a cabin, but we do not because of the current pet policy. We can't go camping without him!

Sincerely,
Mike McFee
717 Washington Drive
Kenna, WV 25248

Tricia Sizemore

From: gary and gayle [cascat@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 10:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: RE: Pets in Parks

Hi Tricia!

When my wife did not get a reply from you right away, she called the WV toll free number & got the mailing address. She sent a written vote. I would like to send you a vote FOR allowing pets in the cabins & lodge rooms.

Thanks!

Gary Berry

-------*Original Message*-------

From: Tricia Sizemore
Date: 06/29/05 09:42:56
To: cascat@charter.net
Subject: RE: Pets in Parks

You can either email your comment to this email address or you can write to the below address. All comments welcome. Thanks!

John R. Pope, Chief

WV State Parks

Attn: Public Comment

State Capitol Complex

Building 3, Room 713

Charleston, WV 25305

Tricia Sizemore

West Virginia State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: gary and gayle [mailto:cascat@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 1:16 PM
To: Parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Parks

Hello:

I need the address for the written comment for the PETS IN THE PARKS as soon as possible so I can get this in before the deadline. Can I get more than one for friends to sign?

Thanks!

Gayle

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Notyet5010@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 10:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hi,

I would be very excited if you could bring your pet on vacation ! I have a Great Dane that is housebroken very gental, And a great member of our family. Well behaved. Of course all dogs should be on lease. This would be wonderful, because I could come more often and stay longer. I hope you will pass this . I know more dog lovers would be happy to have them with them on vacation. You should have rules , housebroken and always on lease. Of course clean after him outside too! Thanks for this consideration ! WE come each year and love every minute of Wataga. We love to hike the Greenbrier River trail. Thanks

Bob Boone of N.C.

email address : invoguefashion@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carendoyle@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 9:35 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets are an ever-growing part of families. I will only stay at hotels that are pet friendly. As a responsible pet owner, I do not mind paying a refundable pet fee, as I know that I will insure that my pet will not destroy the cabin just as it does not destroy my home. Upon consideration of vacationing or visiting a WV state park, this policy is usually the core reason that we decide to travel elsewhere, such as a Kentucky, Ohio, NC or SC state park or resort.

I can support a weight limit for pets, avoiding particular breeds, etc.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Snootgoo@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 7:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I feel pet owners should be able to bring their pets with them when staying at WV State Parks..

Most people who have pets think of them as part of their family..

My pet lives in our house with us. She has access to every room we live in. Sleeps with us and set with us on our coaches.

Most hotels/motels have smoking and non smoking rooms. Some motels.hotels have pet friendly and non pet friendly rooms..Why snot have the same option with cabins in state parks??

Thank you for your consideration

Patricia

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cheryl Jackson [cjackson@hptservices.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 6:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

Mr. John Pope,

I just wanted to let you know that I would very much be in favor of pets being permitted in the cabins. We have rented cabins at several of the state parks and would have found it very useful to be able to bring our pet. I would not even mind paying a deposit to ensure that care is taken of the state's property. I have some reservations as to whether I would be in favor of pets in lodges. I just believe that even though my dog is well behaved that with the number of people in and out of lodges that it could be either a unnecessary distraction or problematic for some pets to be around large numbers of people. Also, keeping carpets and such in lodges clean might be an issue. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this topic.

Cheryl Jackson

Tricia Sizemore

From: KMarion [kmarion@triad.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 3:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i would be in favor of pets being allowed in cabin areas and in camping areas,but not in lodge rooms.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kristina Hildreth [kristinahildreth@wvdhhr.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 3:44 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe allowing responsible pet owners to bring their pets on vacation would be a great idea. My pets are members of my family and I am greatly limited on whe re I can go on vacation since I would have to bring my dog.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Toni Takarsh [toni@citynet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 2:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I am very much in favor of permitting pets to stay in West Virginia state park cabins and lodge rooms. As the proud owner of two rescue dogs, I often feel limited in my vacation choices because of prohibitive boarding costs and the lack of pet-friendly lodging available in West Virginia. Because West Virginia state parks are a very affordable destination and allow me to bring my pets with me for daytime activities, I would be much more likely to visit state parks more often and spend the night if I could bring my canines with me.

A few concerns I have encountered with pet-friendly hotels are that, oftentimes, the only rooms that accommodate pets are smoking rooms. As a nonsmoker who is very allergic to cigarette smoke, I would respectfully suggest that pets welcome state park lodging not be restricted only to smoking rooms. I would also be in favor of a small nonrefundable deposit or a larger refundable deposit to permit my pets to stay with me. Finally, as my dogs are larger (60 lbs.), I would not be in favor of weight restrictions that only permit smaller pets to stay in state park lodging.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my comments about this important issue.

Toni Takarsh
2 Cheryl Court
Winfield, WV 25213

Tricia Sizemore

From: Beverly Wright [beverlywright@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 1:03 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

PLEEEEZE allow pets in state park cabins and in designated lodge rooms. We enjoy our WV State Parks system but were forced to vacation elsewhere because our beloved dog held us hostage.

Seriously, I know some pet owners give the rest of us a bad name. But your facilities are such an enticement for those of us who appreciate the outdoors and all of its wildlife (including a tiny toy fox terrier).

Please allow us the opportunity to bring our pets!

Beverly and Chuck Wright
304/343-9611
beverlywright@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore Read 6/7/05

From: Judy Blevins [JudyBlevins@genrlcorp.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 9:01 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please give careful consideration to allowing pets to stay within the parks. I have no objection to restrictions to certain areas of the park and requiring leashes when in common or congested areas. I would like to see pets allowed in cabins. Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 8:45 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state parks

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Rose Lawrence [mailto:rlawrenc@wvwcc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 3:50 PM
To: John Pope
Subject: Pets in state parks

Mr. Pope
I would like to add my voice to citizen requests that we allow family pets in state park cabins and lodgings, with serious rules and deposits involved. Conscientious and responsible pet owners would have no problems with rules and refundable hefty deposits. Thank you, Rose Lawrence

Tricia Sizemore

From: vlmorgan@charter.net
ent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 7:13 AM
'o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in park cabins

My husband and I completed the VIPP program last year and are enjoying our second time around this summer. We would love to have the opportunity to take one of our dogs along and stay overnight at one of the cabins. As dog owners, we see this as an added benefit to traveling and staying at the parks with our furry friends.

Thanks for allowing our input,
Valinda & Jim Morgan

Tricia Sizemore

From: j.r.towner@verizon.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 7:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Tricia Sizemore

From: j.r.towner@verizon.com
ent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 7:12 AM
o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, I am in favor of the proposal allowing pets in state park cabins and in lodge rooms. Otherwise, I would would not be able to use these facilities. I prefer to stay at hotels that allow pets. Thank you

Tricia Sizemore

From: J Cain [cainj@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 6:56 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in Cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

I understand your office is accepting public comment on the issue of allowing pets in West Virginia state parks. As a former resident of West Virginia, I return to the state frequently and often stay at cabins in the state parks. My family has a dog which we usually take with us on vacations, but under West Virginia's state park's current regulations we are unable to do so when we vacation at one of your cabins. Being able to bring our dog with us would make our vacation more enjoyable. As our dog is an inside pet, she is well behaved and would not cause any damage to a cabin. However, we would be happy to pay a special security deposit with respect any such damage for the ability to bring our dog with us.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Cain
319 Fourth St.
Marietta, OH 45750

Tricia Sizemore

Repeat

From: cpzurbuch [cpzurbuch@cebridge.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 8:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in cabins

I believe pets should be permitted in State Park cabins with the renter paying costs of any damage that might occur. Peter E. Zurbuch, Elkins, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Alankel2004 [alankel2004@adelphia.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 7:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think they should be allowed. Most families that travel with pets treat them like family members and are well mannered. I know personally I would not stay where my 2 little dogs are not allowed.

Terri Kelley

Tricia Sizemore

From: Stephen Tzankoff [stzankoff@medscripts.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 6:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about pets

State parks should allow paying guests to bring their pets (cats, dogs) as long as they are held responsible for any damage incurred. A refundable deposit would NOT be unreasonable. Size limitations, leash rules, muzzles for certain breeds, would not be unreasonable. Proof of immunization against rabies and possibly others should be required, at least if housed in the lodge.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna Mallory [wimzical@charter.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 5:56 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Dogs in the Parks

I'm writing concerning the move underway to designate a few cabins and lodge rooms in each of the state parks as "pet friendly". As a dog owner, trainer, and behavior technician I think this would be an asset in attracting people to visit and obtain lodging in our beautiful state parks. As more and more people are traveling with their pets, hotels and motels across the country have become pet friendly. Most people would not object to paying a small "pet fee" for the priviledge of having their dog to accompany them on the many beautiful hikes our state has to offer. I think a few rules are certainly in order concerning clean up and leash requirements, but responsible dog owners will do this anyway.

Of course, there's always the possiblity of a few "bad apples" spoiling it for the rest, but perhaps to offset that you could require a deposit ($100) that would be returned if no damages were reported. This deposit would be in addition to the nightly fee. I think $10 would certainly be more than adequate for a cabin and perhaps $20 if staying in a lodge. You could also require owners to submit copies of vaccination records.

I would be interested in participating on a task force to study this issue. Thank you for your consideration and attention.

Sincerely,
Donna C. Mallory
Wimzical Border Collies
Whimsical Dog Canine Education Services
Member Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT)
400 Mount View Drive
Charleston, West Virginia 25314
304-552-1555

Tricia Sizemore

From: Peter Zurbuch [pzurbuch@cebridge.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 5:43 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I have stayed in cabins at Watoga; Seneca State forest and Kumbrabow and would have enjoyed taking our family lab. I believe most people with pets would agree to pay a surcharge to bring their pets. It is my hope that your will choose to permit pets even subject to stringent guidelines. Thank you

Peter G Zurbuch
Elkins WVa

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debbie Martin [martind@netacs.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 5:03 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please, please, please allow pets in some cabins and lodge rooms in West Virginia State Parks! My wife and I love to travel in WV, and we love to take our golden retriever to enjoy the beautiful trails the state park system has to offer. But we're in our 50's now, so staying in tents is less comfortable than it was when we were in our 20's. We have occasionally gone to Virginia state parks instead of West Virginia when we took weekend trips because they allow pets. I hear similar stories from many folks, both pet and non-pet owners. We hope you'll consider this, and thanks for taking our comments.
Paul and Debbie Martin
Huntington, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debbie Martin [martind@netacs.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 4:56 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, Yes! Please allow dogs in the cabins and some lodge rooms. I think anyone who loves their animal enough to want to bring them, would be responsible for their behavior. I would not be against an additional fee for any extra cleaning required.
Thank you,
Debbie Martin

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jamie Evans [j_evans124@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 4:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about pets

I just want to voice my excitement about the possibility that pets may some day be accepted at WV state park lodging. I frequent many state parks in WV with my dogs for hiking, but have to stay somewhere outside of the park, which can be inconvenient at times. I think the matter should be reviewed thoroughly.

Thanks,
James Evans

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football
http://football.fantasysports.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: LDW [lsward2@adelphia.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 3:03 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe pets should be allowed. Owners must be responsible for keeping them on a leash when in the public places and clean up after them no matter what the location. There should be a written policy that management may ask any owner to leave who cannot control their pet and the owner forfeits any money paid to date.

Tricia Sizemore

From: BirdPaul@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 2:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe that pets should be allowed. Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Chezik, Kathryn H [chezik@marshall.edu]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 2:45 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Public comment about pets

I am in favor of any legislation that would permit guests in state park cabins to have pets with them. I used to love to visit state parks, but long ago abandoned any visits other than day trips because I want to have my dogs with me on vacations. I would be willing to pay a refundable deposit for any deposit they might do.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kathryn Chezik, Chair
Communication Disorders
Marshall University
1 John Marshall Drive
Huntington WV 25755-2675

(304) 696-2979 (phone)
(304)-696-2986 (fax)
chezik@marshall.edu

Tricia Sizemore

From: KEITHPADGETTMFG@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 2:29 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think that it would be great if you allowed small to midsize pets that are grate trained and well behaved. I would be willing to pay an additional fee of $10.00 per night to allow pets. I think that the rules would have to be such that the pets must be either in grates if left in room or be taken with owners while out of the room.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Roberta W. Byerly [rbyerly@Bridgewater.EDU]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 2:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I want to encourage West Virginia to consider permitting pets in state park cabins and lodges.

My husband and I love spending time in West Virginia's state parks. When we visit state/national parks we typically travel with our dog. I think we would be more inclined to extend our trips beyond day trips if pets were permitted. I realize that some people can be irresponsible and may let their pets be disruptive or destructive. However, I believe that responsible pet owners will be more than willing to pay a pet deposit or even a slightly higher pet rate. I know that many commercial lodging facilities, as well as other states' park facilities, make this option available.
Thanks for the opportunity to comment.
Roberta

Roberta W. Byerly | Director of Print Design Services | Bridgewater College College Box 180 | Bridgewater, VA 22812 | (540) 828-5624 | Fax (540) 828-5780

Tricia Sizemore

From: stroeher [Stroeher@marshall.edu]
nt: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 2:06 PM
o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in state parks

I strongly support the passage of legislation allowing pets in state park cabins, and I would work for its passage.

Many families take vacations with their pets either because the cost of boarding them is prohibitive or because their presence greatly enhances the family vacation experience. I see this as a win-win situation, since allowing pets in park cabins would bring more people to the parks, thus generating more revenue. If there is concern about damage the DNR could simply charge a damage deposit as do some hotels.

--
Michael Stroeher
Huntington, WV
(304) 696-3109

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dorothy Smith [dorothy@mail.drs.state.wv.us]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 1:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Please allow pets in State Parks.

Dorothy Smith

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sandra Boggess [boggess47@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 1:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO LET PETS IN, BUT CERTAIN CABINS SHOULD BE SPECIFIED AS PET FRIENDLY AND NOT ALLOW THEM IN EVERY CABIN.

HAVE A CERTAIN NUMBER FOR PEOPLE WITH PETS. I HAVE CATS BUT I'M SURE NOT EVERYBODY CAN TOLERATE THEM BECAUSE OF DISLIKE, ALLERGIES, ETC., THE SAME WITH DOGS.

IF YOU HAD SPECIFIC CABINS FOR PEOPLE WITH PETS THEN OTHERS WOULDN'T BE BOTHERED BY ALLERGIES, ETC.

HOTELS HAVE SMOKING AND NON-SMOKING ROOMS AND I'M THANKFUL FOR THAT. SO I FIGURE PEOPLE THAT HAVE NO PETS WOULD BE GLAD THEY WERE KEPT SEPARATE TOO.

SANDRA BOGGESS
CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Krismel533@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 1:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I am very excited about the possibility of taking my dog to a WV State Park. My husband and I love the outdoors. We travel more than the average person. We really enjoyed visiting area parks before we obtained our two daschunds. But for the past 3 years, the time we have had the dogs, we have not visited the parks like we would have liked. We would even consider paying a reasonable fee, such as $10 pet deposit, even if it wasn't refundable. That extra $10 would be worth it. Many hotels charge anywhere from $0 to $25. I think $25 is too high. But I would be glad to pay $10 extra if necessary. I hope WV starts allowing pets to stay in their lodges and cabins. It would definitely increase our visits.

Sincerely,

Melanie Aldridge
Lavalette, WV
(304) 529-6319

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 1:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: dogs

-----Original Message-----
From: Danetta Calhoun [mailto:danetta75@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 1:24 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: dogs

I vote that dogs should be allowed in cabins with their owners

---

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football

Tricia Sizemore

From: Neptune, Alan [neptunea@rcbhsc.wvu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 12:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We - along with extended family members have stayed at Lost River State Park for many (40 plus) years. I wish to indicate my support to allow pets in the cabins. This would improve the guest experience at the park and relieve all of the negatives that go along with either arranging neighbor pet coverage or boarding a pet. I feel there should be a limit to how many dogs / cats could stay in each cabin and I would also support a pet deposit to cover any damage repair that could be attributed to a pet in a cabin.

Alan Neptune
Manager - Planning, Design & Construction
West Virginia University Hospitals

Office: (304) 598-4125
Cell: (304) 826-6167

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Tricia Sizemore

From: old-dolphin@juno.com
nt: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 12:13 PM
o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment on pets

To whom it May Concern:
Please allow pets in the cabins. When I go to a park, I go because I want to spend time with my dogs :)

Kelly Dick and furkids Titus, Katia, Gypsy, Arlo, Levi, Annie, and Georgia

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I can not change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

Tricia Sizemore

From: wanda gibson [wgibson@env-eng.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 12:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We travel with our yorkie everywhere we go. We have wanted to stay at your state park in Pinestem but dogs are not allowed in the cabins or cottages. Please consider changing the rule to allow pets to stay overnight!

Thank you,

Wanda Gibson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tisha Underwood [tishadell@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 11:56 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Comment—Pets

I am in favor of pets being allowed in cabins and lodge rooms. I have not vacationed in a WV State Park since becoming a dog owner. As a responsible dog owner I feel that a current vaccination record and a refundable deposit should be required.....and no weight limit imposed. Looking forward to vacationing at a WV State Park with my Choco Lab!!!!

T. Underwood
Mineral Wells, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carolyn Privett [carpri1945@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:51 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: i have a comment on pets in cabins at wv state parks

Yes I think that pets should be allowed in state parks. Parks are family oriented and pets are part of a family.

Carolyn Privett
carpri1945@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Junidy3@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 9:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it would be nice to allow people to bring their pets with them to the parks as long as there is a provision for cleaning up after them. I have friends who would like to take overnight trips and would love to bring their dog with them, but because if the current laws are unable to. Many people consider their pets a part of the family and hate to leave someone behind!!

Tina Marshall
junidy3@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Stacy Holstine [sholstine@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 8:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks
Importance: High

I think there should be Pet Friendly cabins as well as Non-Pet Friendly Cabins so guests may choose. Having this option would be an improvement and be competitive with Hotels, Cabins, etc., around the nation.

Due to allergies, some cannot stay where animals have been. Some of us would like to travel with our pets. For these reasons, I think it should be an option.

I think if pets are allowed it **should be limited to small dogs**. Cat dander causes allergy problems for many, especially children and those with respiratory problems.

Thank you,
Stacy Holstine
HC 36 Box 205
Charleston, WV 25306

304-925-3351
304-346-9864 x 3279 work

Tricia Sizemore

From: p b [foozmom@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 8:25 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in state parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore,
I was given your address when I called the DNR to voice my opinion about the potential change in park policy regarding pets in cabins. Years ago, when pets were permitted, my family vacationed with our pets in Blackwater Falls and Pipestem. No facilities were ever damaged by our animals. We have not been back since your policy changed. If pets are again permitted in the park cabins, we most certainly will vacation there. For the record, we have two old cats who are declawed in front and are on monthly flea control and they are up to date on all other vaccinations. We will leave the cabin cleaner than we found it which is what we did when we vacationed this spring in Gatlinburg with our pets.
Regards,
Patricia Burkett

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sindy010364@wmconnect.com

Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 5:58 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of allowing pets in cabins and campsites in wv state parks
sincerely,

cindy m moss
519 se 32nd terr
cape coral ,fl 33904

Tricia Sizemore

From: Greta Tyler [gtyler@wirefire.com]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 5:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I have a wonderful dog who travels with us very nicely. I would love to be able to take her with us to the lodges. She would not cause any problems. If she could stay with us, we would surely visit the lodges more often. If she were only allowed in cabins, we might stay in cabins but we are an older couple without children so have not stayed in cabins for several years.

Having said this about OUR dog, I recognize that not all dogs are as wonderfully well behaved as our Sassy and could cause problems. However, they are probably no worse than a lot of people. We understand that you have to do what is best for the whole system, but we would welcome the opportunity to bring out pet with us.

Greta and Jim Tyler

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cornwell, Emily [Emily.Cornwell@riverparkhospital.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 2:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think that the state should allow pets in the cabins. As a pet owner I love to travel with my dogs and am often disappointed when an area is "no pets". I think it would be great for the state economy to tap into those pet owner purses too!

Emily Cornwell

Operations Manager
River Park Hospital
1230 6th Avenue
Huntington, WV 25701

(304) 526-9123

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Slornwv@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 2:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Slornwv@aol.com
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear WVDNR:
My pet which is a dog means the world to this family and where I go she goes. Today we teach the lack of family and responsibility, drop the pet at the kennel, send the kids to camp or a relative for the summer. And so on it goes. As for myself I now take time in travel to enjoy what God has given to enjoy because of My Best Friend, even the trips to NY and to FLA. I now stop and take time as before I would stop only for gas. And I do go to parks and recreation areas to be with her. A night stay would be a nice adventure and an added unknown assistance to the public ... because
I am a paramedic and fire fighter who with my best friend becomes a search and rescue k-9 team. BUT I must stress that ALL animal solid waste must be the owners responsibility to pick up, bagged and disposed of in a trash collector or fine if not compliant regardless day visit or if allowed over night and be under control and accompanied by human.

Please vote for all family members to enjoy our State of West Virginia

SL Orndorff

Tricia Sizemore

From: BlkLabJ@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 1:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am for allowing pets in state park cabins. Some type of deposit system should be set up to cover any damages or behavior issues that may arise. Issues such as barking excessively, roaming off leash,cabin not being cleaned of animal hair and of course not being cleaned up after a bathroom break. Those things would not allow a deposit to be returned.
If the pet & owner behave responsibly and things are kept in a clean matter then a return of deposit minus a small charge for light cleaning & flea/tick bombs or something of the sort being used.
Of course written rules, sign and date that the owner agrees. Don't forget to check for proof of license & vaccinations.
I myself would stay more frequently at state parks if my dog was allowed to stay inside the cabin. I have a number of friends that would probably do the same.
Marsha
Newport News,Virginia

Tricia Sizemore

From: Virginia Snodgrass [mybigdogs@adelphia.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 12:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I hope you allow this rule change to occur so that at least dogs could be allowed in the state park facilities. Responsible pet owners would likely be okay with paying a deposit for their pets.

As a responsible owner of 4 dogs, I DO pick up droppings on my 27 acres and would do the same anyplace I took one of my K9s.

Virginia Snodgrass
Elkton, VA

Tricia Sizemore

From: JEANNE CHANDLER [JCHANDLER@wvdep.org]
ent: Monday, June 27, 2005 12:04 PM
'o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets at State Parks

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
I agree that the rule should be changed to allow pets at the state parks in a responsible manner. Many of those that utilize the parks consider their pets part of the family. A reasonable fee should be accessed to cover any mishaps. Also, records should be kept to identify if the condition of the lodging area is deteriorating at an accelerated rate due to pet damage. Specific rooms should be designated, like smoking rooms, for those with allergies.
Most importantly, we went to maintain the integrity of our beautiful parks. Thank you. Jeanne Chandler

Tricia Sizemore

From: RSTBRAND@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 9:50 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it is a great idea to allow pets in the cabins. You can charge a pet security deposit. There are a lot of people that travel with there pets. I have found I don't go to places that don't allow pets. I don't really agree pets should be allowed in the lodges. Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

Tricia Sizemore

From: jkissner@access.k12.wv.us
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 6:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in cabins

I am not currently a WV resident, but maybe in the future. I teach in WV and live in MD. I have two dogs that would love to go with us on vacation. I know other states are beginning to allow this. I realize this brings with it alot of new rules, and problems enforcing them. Not everyone would be willing to comply and could make situations uncomfortable, but if it is within reason, I think you should look to implementing a new policy.

I am really impressed with WV's state parks with lodges and cabins. They are a great value and impressive accomodations. I would never want to see the quality hindered by allowing dogs, but if this could be successfully accomplished, I would love it.

Jodi Kissner
jkissner@access.k12.wv.us

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tina Baucom [Tina.Baucom@aero.org]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:47 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets should be allowed in cabins in state parks. Our pets enjoy nature themselves and add to our enjoyment of it also.

Sincerely,

Tina Baucom
600 Notley Road
Silver Spring, MD 20904

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:41 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Regarding dogs at state-park cabins.

-----Original Message-----
From: MaMaMac28@aol.com [mailto:MaMaMac28@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 4:10 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Regarding dogs at state-park cabins.

I, Maxine Calhoun, 7 Central Avenue , Elkview, WV 25071, want to register my YES vote to let visitors have their pets at their rented cabins while spending vacation time in our state parks . Now, maybe next year my family will be able to vacation in our own state. Thanks very much for giving residence this opportunity to make a choice and maybe a difference. Have a great summer.

Maxine Calhoun

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:40 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Public Comment about Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Gene Carte [mailto:gcarte@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 11:25 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Fw: Public Comment about Pets

---- Original Message ----
From: Gene Carte
To: triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 8:08 AM
Subject: Fw: Public Comment about Pets

---- Original Message ----
From: Gene Carte
To: triciasizemore@wvdhr.gov
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 8:01 AM
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Pets should be allowed in state park cabins and lodges just as in major hotels. An additional fee could be charged which may allow for the hiring
of additional local employees. Many hunters and
travelers are responsible pet owners and keep their pets under control. They are not visiting our parks because of the exclusion policy regarding pets.

Gene Carte
1507 Ravinia Rd
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: My husband and I are very much in favor of allowing dogs & cats to stay in cabins in our parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Pam Ruediger [mailto:PRuediger@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 11:53 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: My husband and I are very much in favor of allowing dogs & cats to stay in cabins in our parks

Pam & Dave Ruediger
2193 Charleston Road
Spencer, WV 25276
927-2007

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: comment on dogs in state park cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Sharon Canterberry [mailto:sharoncanterberry@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 1:29 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: comment on dogs in state park cabins

We would be much more likely to stay in WV to vacation if we could bring our dog. She's part of the family and we vacaction with her. In fact, we've taken up camping so we could take her too, but if she were allowed to stay in the cabins or lodge at the State Parks, that would be our first choice. We used to visit Pipestem at least once a year and stay in the cabins, until the rules changed and we could no longer bring our dogs. The one time we left our pets behind and stayed in a cabin at Pipestem, we noticed several of our cabin neighbors had ignored the rule and brought their dogs. So, if dogs are staying anyway, and you're losing business from the rule-obeying dog-loving public, just let the dogs in! I think it's fair to impose certain rules - dogs must be on a leash, must clean up after the dogs, dogs can't chase or scare the wildlife, etc.

Thanks for listening!

Sharon Canterberry
South Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet policy

-----Original Message-----
From: Chris Stadelman [mailto:chrisstadelman@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 1:36 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Cc: kstadelman@rmsstrategies.com
Subject: Pet policy

This is in response to the request for comments regarding pets in state parks.My wife and I are the owners of a 6-year-old greyhound, and we make vacation decisions largely based upon whether we can take our pet with us. There are entire Web sites dedicated to helping pet owners know where their animals are accepted, and I expect this market to grow. Obviously, I would ask that the state allow pets in its parks. I would, however, encourage you to NOT limit that allowance to only "dogs under 25 pounds" or some similar restriction. I understand the potential need for breed restrictions, although I would also be careful about that. Simply put, our 80-pound adult dog would be a much better fit in a park lodge or cabin than a 20-pound puppy, but many places discriminate based on size. Please avoid that distinction. I would be happy to provide any additional information if it's needed. Chris Stadelman Parsons, WV 478-2288

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:38 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Comments on pets

-----Original Message-----
From: valerie mcvey [mailto:vrmc17@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 3:56 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: RE: Comments on pets

I vote YES for the pets in parks. I have a dog and live in Charleston. We take our dog on vacation as a family member.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: comment on pets in parks

-----Original Message-----
From: ROSE BRODERSEN [mailto:RBRODERSEN@wvdep.org]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 2:58 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: comment on pets in parks

Thank you for this wonderful idea!

Many hotel/motel operations are opening up their facilities for those that travel with animal companions and I think it's great that WV do the same with the parks.

There are times when I travel alone and would love to have my dog with me, for protection and companionship.

I hope this opens up a wonderful world of increased visitors and great fun in WV. Even if there are select cabins/rooms only for pets would be nice.

A trial basis would be nice.

Thank you

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:34 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Luretta Evans [mailto:deerhuntersandrita@juno.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 2:29 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Cc: deerhuntersandrita@juno.com
Subject: pets in parks

June 26, 2005

Mr. J. R. Pope
Chief of Parks and Recreation
Department of Natural Resources

My wife and I would like to offer our views on the issue of allowing pets in the state parks and forests cabins and lodges.

The state parks/forest cabins and lodges are our favorite places to vacation or just take weekend trips and we have not done so since acquiring our dog, six years ago, due to the DNR no pets rule. We feel that, as we are citizens of West Virginia and love our state and love to vacation here (if you offered us a condominium at Myrtle Beach or a cabin in a West Virginia park or forest, we would choose the cabin)and, also, because we pay our state tax the same as people who don't vacation with pets, we feel we should be allowed to take our pet with us to the cabins or lodges.

Lady, our six-year old female dog, is a cross between a black Lab and a beagle; she looks like a black Lab but is small like a beagle. We enjoy her very much. She is fun and funny, great company, and she is great at alerting us when someone comes around (my husband and I both have hearing difficulties. She is not allowed to aggravate others with her barking or in any other way and is not allowed to damage or destroy any furnishings at any time or place. We are very responsible about the places she is allowed to "go to the bathroom" outdoors and would willingly clean up any droppings. She is not allowed to "go" indoors.

On the issue of someone, who has pet allergies, renting the cabin/lodge room after a pet has been there, we feel that there should be designated cabins/lodge rooms for renters with pets. People that have allergies would have cabins and lodge rooms that have not had pets in them and they would be able to enjoy their vacation. However, we feel that the cabins/lodge rooms reserved for pet-owning guests should not be only the cabins or lodge rooms that are the least rented or no one else wants. When we go on vacation, we want to enjoy our trip, too, and we don't want to be relegated to a cabin that no one else wants. For example, our favorite place to vacation is at the cabins surrounding Seneca Lake; we don't want to be given the cabin that is farthest from the lake or for the nicest cabins (i.e., cabin number four) to be given only to non-pet guests.

Thank you for providing us with a reasonable way to present our our views on something that a sore spot with us. As much as we love Seneca Lake, we haven't vacationed there since Lady came to stay with us and, though we truly miss it, we refuse to go without her as she is part of the enjoyment. Please feel free to call us at (304) 346-1306 at any time or you may contact us at 589 Garrison Ave., Charleston, WV 25302.

Sincerely,
Dennis and Luretta Evans
Have a great day!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Lynette Maselli [mailto:Lynette.Maselli@wvinsurance.gov]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 9:03 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

Please allow pets to stay in WV State Park lodges and cabins!

Lynette Maselli
Communications Specialist
West Virginia Insurance Commission
304.558.3707 x126
www.wvinsurance.gov

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lee Ann Barnett [leeann_b1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 9:43 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pet comments

Dear Sir:

I would love to bring my pet miniature Schnauzer to camp with us at a cabin. She is a well mannered member of our family. I am in search of vacation accomodations and am unable to spend my money here for this reason. Please reconsider using guidelines to keep WV cabins neat and invitng by requiring deposits for damage and an extra fee for clean up. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.
Sincerely,
Lee Ann Barnett
119 Waterside Circle
Winfield, WV 25213
304-586-0405

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Cole, Melissa M. [MmCole@cvty.com]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 9:38 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, I am in favor of allowing pets to accompany their "parents" on overnights in State Park cabins and possible lodge rooms. Our pets are often our "children" and leaving them in a strange environment has often not permitted us to visit overnight our exceptional state park system. We are finding upon our travels, that more and more hotels are allowing pets to accompany their owners - the dog is happy and we are happy which makes for a great get away.

Thank you for considering this kind act for our furry friends.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: YambaRoot@aol.com

Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 8:59 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My name is Lynn Kettler and I would like to say that as a pet owner I am strongly in favor of allowing pets in State Park Cabins and Lodges. more and more pet owners are traveling with their pets. I have lived in West Virginia all my life, my family and I camp all summer long in West Virginia State Parks and we think it's wonderful that our dogs are welcome into the camp grounds unlike several other state parks we have camped at. We would love to be able to bring our pets and stay at the cabins we have been requesting that for many years. Most pet owners that travel with their pets are conscious of cleaning up after them. We stay at pet friendly hotels a lot and never has there been any problem. thanks for the chance to express my views, lynn kettler

Tricia Sizemore

From: Notyet5010@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 11:30 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

TO who this concerns :

I feel strongly that a well behaved pet dog should be allowed to stay in the cabin with the family. House broken of course & friendly. I come each summer and this would make me very happy as my dog is well trained & a part of the family. I think the family would clean up outside after the dog. Most people that travel with dogs are very reliable about cleaness. This would make my family very happy & we could stay a longer visit., knowing we did not have to rush back home to see about the dog. It would be a real pleasure to have our dog with us. Thanks for the concederation.

regards,
Melvene Boone

Tricia Sizemore

From: bob fisher [hungryman7777@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 9:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pet policy

I would love to see the state parks start allowing pets in the cabin's and lodges, even if I had to pay a deposit or a nominal fee.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Fishermanwv@cs.com
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 9:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of allowing pets in cabins in State Parks.
Thank you
Larry Duckworth
Philippi WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: MsEllieJR@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 6:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My pet is my best friend.
I would like to take my best friend to State Park cabins.
If I could I'd sure visit them more often.
If necessary I'd pay an extra deposit.
After all, my pet is my best friend.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cuzzinfish183@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 4:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would to propose that pets be allowed in the cabins and other facilities of the state parks. Not allowing pets is a great inconvenience due to the high price of boarding for animals. Also, many of us dont travel without our pets so that is loss of revenue for you and your cabins.
Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Smpjenn@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 11:31 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I THINK IT WOULD BRING MORE PEOPLE TO WEST VIRGINIA. I HAVE PETS AND IT IS VERY HARD TO BE ABLE TO VACATION WITH THEM AND I KNOW ALOT OF PEOPLE WITH PETS AND THEY FEEL THE SAME WAY. WE WOULD ALL LOVE MORE PET FRIENDLY VACATION SPOTS. MAKE PEOPLE PAY A DEPOSIT EITHER REFUNDABLE OR NOT. IT WOULD GREATLY INCREASE STATE REVENUE AND VISITS.
THANK YOU,
JENNIFER SIMPSON
349 HAZZARD ST
JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK 14701

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mike Ditchen [theditchens@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 8:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I sincerely hope that WV decides to allow pets in cabins at WV State Parks. When we added a dog to our family, we made a commitment to her. We have not visited a state park since she joined us because leaving her behind is too painful to do unless it is absolutely necessary. Since visiting a state park is not a necessity, we don't. Prior to our children and dog, we spent several lovely weekends at various state parks and would love to do so again with our complete family.

Sincerely,
Judy Ditchen

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tabitha Black [ghiagrrrl@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 3:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,

I would just like to let you know that we are thinking of planning some vacations for this year and next. If dogs were allowed in the state parks, we would definately come to West Virginia. We love the state and think it is beautiful, but that would be one more reason to pick WV over another state to vacation in.

Thank You, Tabitha, Chris and Ava (the doggy)

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football

Tricia Sizemore

From: Paul Gebhard [pgebhard@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 1:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

Please do not allow pets in lodge rooms.

A limited number of cabins (10%) could be used for people with pet.

Great idea for email response!

Tricia Sizemore

From: HARVEY H HATFIELD [hatfields@citlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 7:14 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in state parks in WV

I am very much in favor of this. We have consistently made our travel arrangements with our dog in mind. He does not trash rooms and makes fewere messes than the average 5 to 10 year old child. Naturally when we travel we do not use the state parks. We would like very much to do so.

HH Hatfield
St Marys WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Linda Dotson [lsdotson@citynet.net]

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 7:37 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I travel WV and visit the parks and would love to stay in a cabin or lodge but cannot because my pets are not allowed. It would be great to be able to stay in the State parks!!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lynn, Vicki J. [VLynn@cvty.com]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 3:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would love to be able to take my long-haired dachshund on weekend trips with me. She is crated at night and for the most part would probably be cleaner than most human tenants that use the cabins or lodge rooms.

Hope this passes.

Vicki Lynn
Account Executive
Phone (304)561-6962
Fax (304)561-6985
Email: Vlynn@cvty.com
The most important thing to wear each day a smile =0)

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Preece Gregory S MSG 130AW/MXS [Gregory.Preece@WVCHAR.ang.af.mil]

Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 1:52 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, we should be able to have pets in the cabins etc. We have to pay an outrageous price for them if we want to stay in them anyway. I have started fishing and staying in KY and it is better fishing (bass) and cost effective even with buying out of state license.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Vickie Bowden [bahsofwv@ma.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 12:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To Whom It May Concern:

I am in favor of allowing pets to area parks and lodging at WV cabins, facilities, etc.

I do believe, however, that the owner should be responsible for their pets and rules should be made to manage the situation accordingly. Other guests should not be inconvenienced in their stay. Owners should be responsible for any destruction and inconvenience to others that their pets might create.

Thank you for letting me express my opinion.
Vickie Z. Bowden
bahsofwv@ma.rr.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kevin Fisher [kindayfisher@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 12:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I strongly support allowing dogs of ALL SIZES to stay in cabins and lodge rooms in all WV state parks and facilities. Dogs are important parts of families, and should be able to accompany families on vacations. I was planning a week-long stay at Blk. Wtr. St Pk. this year, but instead, will be forced to stay at a private motel. This diminishes the natural experience of WV for me and my family, and deprives the state of WV from earing additional revenue, and discourages tourism to the state. Provided that dogs are well supervised, and non-aggressive, there should be no size limit for dogs in park facilities; furthermore, friendly, well-trained dogs shouln NOT be required to be leashed in st parks. If there is great resistance to allowing dogs in all cabins and lodge rooms, then at least half the cabins and rooms must be designated as welcoming to pets, especially dogs. I would pay to satay, visit more often, and tourism to WV will increase if dogs are allowed to accompany their families.

Thanks!

Kevin Fisher

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football
http://football.fantasysports.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary C. Smith [gcs.ggm@wvdsl.net]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 10:14 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: DEE SMITH
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My family usually spends at least one weekend each year in the cabins at one of our state parks. We have a dog (Logan) that is clean, housebroken, gentle and part of our family. We like being outdoors and so does Logan. We would enjoy our stay in the parks cabins even more if we could bring Logan with us. We would be willing to pay a small fee or make a deposit that would be forfeited if any pet related damage were done to the cabin if we could bring her with us.

Please count my wife and I as "voting" for allowing pets in the cabins at state parks. I don't feel as strongly about the lodges since neighbors who might object could be so close, but perhaps having one floor or wing that allowed pets would be a good compromise.

Gary and Dee Smith
Hurricane WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: RicknCarri@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 12:40 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL



I have a 1 year old Sheltie, she's my baby girl. Her name is Hannah Cheyenne. I also have 2 children that just love her, ages 4 and 9 years old. We have been taking her every where since we brought her home at 5

weeks old. She is very smart, loving, and minds adults as well as children. She has been trained not to leave our side when others are around, not to bark (she barks when she is playing ball). We could not imagine enjoying a comfortable weekend at one of our state parks with her at a boarding kennel for 3-7 days. She is a part of our family. I have been camping at a state park

where another dog was next to our camp site, I wanted to leave, but since we were 2 hours away from home and I had already set up camp, I reluctantly staid. The dog barked constantly, the family left it with no water or food, and tied to a tree. Please don't punish the families that bring their family member (pet), with them to a public place to enjoy the

outdoors! If the animal is troublesome, ask them to leave, if need be, ask every one to bring shot records with them during their stay. Hannah, our sheltie, is about 10 lbs., sable color, beautiful brown eyes that melt your heart. She sits, stays, gives high 5, knows her left from right, gives hugs, plays hide and seek, smiles, and so much more. She has

her own baby doll, and blanket, yes, she even sleeps with her own blanket and her head on the pillow. Yes, she is a dog, but she is every bit a part of our family in every way. If we are unable to bring her with us, we will not be able to enjoy the state parks as we once did. We have enjoyed staying at Twin Falls, Black Water Falls, Canaan Valley, Seneca Rock,

Smoke Hole, Tygart Lake, Watoga, Lost River, and more. Camping is our summer. I clean up after ourselves and our dog. The information for the stay is your for compensation if we do not respect the responsibility, take action on those who don't. Thank you for your time. Carri

Tricia Sizemore

From: RJaumot@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 12:38 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets.

I would like to voice my opinion about allowing dogs in the cabins and lodge of the State Parks.
I grew up taking vacations in the state parks. However, we have not been able to enjoy camping in the parks since dogs are not allowed. I would like to see the rules changed to allow pets.

Thank You,

Mr. & Mrs Eugene Jaumot
207 Meadowview Dr.
Bridgeport, WV 26330

304-842-4384

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rosalie Stanley [irishrosalie@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 9:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: iriskrosalie@charter.net
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We are 61 and 65 years of age. Our children are grown and out on their own. We have a small dog who is our whole life. We would not consider any vacation or week-end get-away without her EVER!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mike Laughlin [mike25143@verizon.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 6:54 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I'm for allowing pets in the cabins but not the lodge rooms. I used to enjoy renting the same cabin at Twin Falls ervery year but don't since I can't take my pet.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brooks Cottle [bcottle@mail.brookscottlecpa.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 6:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I SUPPORT legislation to allow guests to keep pets in lodge rooms or cabins

Brooks Cottle
(304) 428-9000

Tricia Sizemore

From: Stephanie Johnson [sjohnson@wvfibernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 4:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Importance: High

I can guarantee you there have been numerous times we have chosen not to stay in cabins because we couldn't take our chocolate lab, Seneca, with us. We are avid campers and feel the current policy hinders us, along with Seneca, from enjoying of the outdoors. Please consider changing the policy to allow pets - I know you would make a log of pet owners happy! Thanks for your consideration, Stephanie Johnson.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Richard Price [rprice@wvfibernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 4:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would like to see pets allowed at cabins in the state parks system. I do agree on the idea of an extra deposit. I have a dog and we would have stayed in cabins in the park system if it were not for this rule. Thanks, Richard Price

Tricia Sizemore

From: valerie mcvey [vrmc17@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 4:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: RE : I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I vote YES, we have a dog who goes on vacation as a family member. Valerie

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Copley, Jackie CIV WV-ARNG [jackie.copley@WV.NGB.ARMY.MIL]

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 12:47 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please allow dogs

I never liked dogs when I was growing up. My parents had giant dogs that were a real bother to me. So of course I **would** have said no, don't allow dogs in your cabins.

4 years ago, my husband and I got our kids a full bred jack russel puppy. I of course fell in love with her. She is part of the family. She goes everywhere with us. She stayed in a cottage at Hatteras Island where she got to run on the beach, go canoeing, and swim in the sound. We've also had her in cottages on vacation in Nags Head, NC and in Emerald Isle, NC. She has stayed in many hotels including having to take residence for a month in the Countrylnn and Suites in Charleston, WV in June 2003 because my family lost our house due to flooding. They were wonderful to us and treated our "Maggie" so wonderful. There are many places we would love to vacation at but we opt to go where Maggie can go. I am not against paying an extra deposit for pet friendly accomodations. Most hotels do not charge extra but we have ran into a few that do. Cottages that we have stayed at have charged up to an extra $100.00 non-refundable deposit for a weeks stay.

Jackie Copley

Tricia Sizemore

From: William J Chambers [William.J.Chambers@usa.dupont.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 10:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my opinion in favor of allowing pets in cabins on state parks. On numerous occasions, my family would have loved to stay for up to 1 week vacations in state park cabins, but because of the current rule, we have had to settle for private facilities or tent camping. We travel everywhere with our border collie companion and feel that she is a major reason that we enjoy the outdoors and our state parks. I hope to be able to enjoy the park cabins with her soon.

Thanks

Bill Chambers
Parkersburg, WV

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Tricia Sizemore

From: WZAC-FM Wayne Price [wzac@kvinet.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 10:47 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I go on vacation with my sister and her family. We have to find a cabin that allows small dogs, but we cannot stay in the state park cabins because they don't allow animals. Most if the time we stay at the Cheat River Cabins because they allow pets. Sure they have to pay extra foe the pets, but it's worth it to them, cause they don't leave their pets at home. Please take in to consideration that our tax dollars help to pay for our state parks.

Thank You
Faye Thompson
Box 302
Chapmanville, WV 25508

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kalyn_Bruin@aporter.com
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 10:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in State Parks

I am very much in favor of allowing pets in the cabins in the state parks. I love visiting WV, but I must always rent a private cabin because I travel with my dog, a 90-lb Akita. West Virginia is "Wild and Wonderful," but how wild and wonderful if one is barred from visiting with one's pet? An extra pet fee would be a reasonable accommodation to make to allow opening up the state parks to people/families with pets.

Sincerely
Kalyn Bruin

Kalyn Bruin Kalyn_Bruin@aporter.com
Legal Secretary
Arnold & Porter LLP Telephone: 202-942-5176
555 Twelfth Street, NW Fax: 202-942-5999
Washington, DC 20004-1202

For more information about Arnold & Porter LLP, click here:
http://www.arnoldporter.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rowhta4@cs.com
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 10:09 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it would be a great idea.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brewer, Terry [terry.brewer@lmco.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 7:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

I am in favor of passing the legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in WV state park cabins and possibly lodge rooms. Our pets are part of our family!!!!

As a pet owner and having traveled with my pets, I would confirm that it is entirely reasonable for the pet owner to be expected to leave a security deposit/credit card number on file until checkout when the staff can confirm that the pet has not caused any damage. This should help assuage some of the concerns.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation,
Terry L. Brewer

Terry L. Brewer, CPCM
NCMA Fellow
Director, NCMA Board PY 2004-2005
NCMA NVP & Secretary PY 2005-2006
Contracts Administrator, Identity Management (IdM)
Lockheed Martin Information Technology
1000 Technology Drive, Suite 1320
Fairmont, WV 26554

Phone: 304.333.1700
Cell: 304.844.6790
Nextel Direct Connect: 189*63*48685
Fax: 304.333.1707
E-Mail: terry.brewer@lmco.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Gene Carte [gcarte@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 8:09 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Fw: Public Comment about Pets

---- Original Message ----
From: Gene Carte
To: triciasizemore@wvdhr.gov
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 8:01 AM
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Pets should be allowed in state park cabins and lodges just as in major hotels. An additional fee could be charged which may allow for the hiring
of additional local employees. Many hunters and
travelers are responsible pet owners and keep their pets under control. They are not visiting our parks because of the exclusion policy regarding pets.

Gene Carte
1507 Ravinia Rd
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: Funv02@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 11:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

GOOD DAY LADIES & GENTELMEN:

I WAS A RESIDENT OF WEST VIRGINIA FOR 30 YEARS. I HAVE BEEN A RESIDENT OF FLORIDA FOR 27 YEARS. WITHIN THE LAST 5 YEARS THE STATE OF FLORIDA HAS FINALLY REALIZED THAT 90% OF THE
WINTER VISITORS TRAVELING INTO THE STATE HAVE PETS. DOGS ARE NUMBER 1.

MY HUSBAND & I ARE PLANNING A TRIP "BACK HOME" THIS SUMMER.
WE HAVE FOUR MINITAURE DASCHUNDS THAT TRAVEL WITH US. WE TRAVEL BY MOTORHOME. SOME TIMES WE PARK THE MOTOR HOME AND TAKE DAY TRIPS TO VARIOUS POINTS WITH IN A DAY DRIVE.
WE HAVE ON OCCASSION DECIDED TO SPEND THE NIGHT.
NUMBER ONE QUESTION? WHERE WILL WE STAY WITH 4 DOGS IN TOW?

THE MAJOR FACTOR OF HAVING PETS IN "HOTEL ROOMS" IS FLEAS.
THE NUMBER TWO FACTOER IS LIABILTY IF A PERSON SHOULD GET BITTEN BY A DOG OR CAT. CAN YOU IMAGINE A SIGN IN A VETS OFFICE THAT READS AS FOLLOWS:
WE REQUIRE PETS TO BE TEATHERED AT ALL TIMES WHILE IN THIS OFFICE. WE WILL NOT PAY A VET BILL IF YOUR PET IS INJURIED DUE TO THE NEGLENCE OF AN UNATTENDING ADULT.

IF YOUR CHILD IS AS UNRULEY AS YOUR DOG, KEEP CHILD TEATHER ALSO.

FLEAS PRODUCE MILLIONS OF EGGS, AND THE OFFSPRING REPRODUCES LAYING MILLIONS MORE. **THIS IS NOT A CONCERN FOR US. I AM MORE WORRIED ABOUT THE ROACHES, THE CLEANLENESS OF THE TOLIET, TABLE AND MOST OF ALL MY LINENS. BACTERIA, AND VIRAL INFECTIONS ARE WORSE THAN FLEAS. PLEASE CONSIDER HAVING DOGS IN LODGES.**

SIGNS SHOULD BE POSTED IN THE CHECK-IN AREA AND IN EACH ROOM.

AT THE TOP OF THE CONTRACT, IN BIG, BOLD PRINT THERE SHOULD BE A REMINDER RE THE LEASH LAW.

POOPY BAGS SHOULD BE POSTED IN VARIOUS SPOTS ALONG THE WALK WAYS.

ON THE WALKING TRAIL.....IF YOUR PET POOPS
AND YOU DON'T SCOOP
WE WILL SMILE AND

GIVE YOU THE BOOT

USE THE BAGGIES

THANK YOU "DEEPMARLIN"

Tricia Sizemore

From: Milissa Short [tmshort@frontiernet.net]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 9:58 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I feel that this is a great idea to change your policy and allow pets in the cabins. Dogs and cats generally do less damage to a cabin or room than does cigarette smoke. My sister stayed in your cabins last summer at Watoga State Park and had a great time, however, has looked at going to Va this summer because they allow pets in their cabins.

Thank you for considering allowing pets in the cabins.

Sincerely,

Milissa Short

Tricia Sizemore

From: Calso58@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 9:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

Dear Sir. I see no problem with pets staying in the state parks cabins. All the cabins we have stay in was mostly wood. and would be easy to clean up. The lodges I do not recommend for pets. With carpet you have hair and odor that would be hard to clean up. And the rooms are close together a barking dog could disturb the neighbors. The state parks are great keep up the good work. Scott Calhoun

Tricia Sizemore

From: Roberta L Allison [omaallison@juno.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 7:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Dogs in the parks?

Recently got a card asking my opinion. I live on a "dog" street, so it is restful to go somewhere I don't hear the little buggers. However, they are "family" to some people. So here is my opinion. ***Yes***, if the following rules are observed:

1. Dogs must be on a leash **at all times** they are outdoors. And the rule enforced.!

2. If people let their dogs free, the dog should be impounded and the renter of the cabin fined.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sherry Lilly [slilly@wvturnpike.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 4:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in cabins

My personal opinion is that dogs & cats should be allowed to stay in cabins. Several people love their pets as much as a child and it is sad not to be able to spend a vacation with your pet. I would suggest however that there would be just a certain amount of cabins available for this because some people are allergic to pet dander. Say the park has 10 cabins, then I would just make 3 available for people with pets. I would also set an additional fee for the pet each night.

Thanks
Sherry Lilly

Tricia Sizemore

From: JaniCasdorph@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 3:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

For the past thirty years, my husband and I, along with our children and grandchildren, have enjoyed lodging at most of W.V.'s state parks - in cabins, lodge rooms, and campsites. We are also pet owners; and at times when staying in a lodge or cabin, wish we could have our pets with us. For 2 years we were restricted to camping in our fifth wheel, since our cat had become blind due to diabetes and required insulin injections & other medications. Our dog, the second stray we have adopted from a state park, still accompanies us when camping in our RV.

Hopefully, the legislature will allow a lift on the moratorium of "no pets" in state park lodges/cabins.

However, we do feel that there should be certain restrictions, such as:
1) Designated "pet cabins or lodge rooms" for individuals with pets; allowing those with allergies to have the privilege to also stay in "pet free" state park accomodations, without the fear of becoming ill;
2) No more than 2 pets per room/cabin; and perhaps a restriction on the size of the pet(s) and/or restriction of certain breeds known to attack (pit bulls, rotriellers, etc.) muzzled when not in cabin or lodge room;
3) Continue leash policy;
4) Refundable fee charged at check-in, in case of damages; owners sign document confirming animal(s) is house-broken/litter trained.

Perhaps other restrictions are needed (owners accept in writing complete liability in case of pet attacking an individual on park property, and in case two animals should attack each other ~ allowing the state not to be responsible in either situation).

We so appreciate the time and effort of each individual attempting to make this privilege possible again for families!

Sincerely,
Jani Casdorph
105 Sun Valley Estates
Scott Depot, WV 25560

757-0761 ~ janicasdorph@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Christy Ferrell [cferrell@wvturnpike.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 3:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

From: Christy Ferrell
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 3:12 PM
To: 'triciasizemore@wvdhr.gov'
Subject:

I think pets should be allowed into our state parks overnight. Most people willing to take a pet would take good care of it make sure it doesnt' destroy any property. You could even have leash law.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jane Bowles [thismomentousday@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 2:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in State Parks

I am in favor of pets being allowed in state parks. I have 2 small dogs who travel a great deal and are well trained but I'm often forced to travel out of state in order to take my dogs. I was raised vacationing in state parks as a child. As one of 11 children, the parks are filled with childhood memories that are more precious since the passing of both of my parents. But the cost of a pet sitter combined with the cost of the rental is often more than my budget can tolerate. Often I speak to clients and acquaintenances who are traveling with pets and want to visit the parks. It discourages tourism in an already financially stressed environment. A suggestion would be to restrict certain cabins, rooms, etc. as pet friendly in the event other visitors were allergic to animals. Also, leash laws should be enforced.

Please give this serious consideration.

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: raines, tammy [traines@baileywyant.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 1:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe pets should be allowed in WV State Park lodging. As a pet owner, it is difficult to plan for enjoying a weekend stay at a WV park without being able to take my pet along. I would love to see a rule change that would allow this. I believe interest in park accomodations would increase, especially for a 2 night stay.

Thank you.

Tammy Bowles Raines, Esquire

Bailey & Wyant, PLLC
500 Virginia Street, East, Suite 600
P.O. Box 3710
Charleston, West Virginia 25337-3710
Phone: (304) 345-4222 Ext. 137
Fax: (304) 343-3133
traines@baileywyant.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Sally Fowler [sfowler@wvturnpike.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 10:24 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

West Virginia State Parks and Forrest should allow guest to keep pets in cabins. There could be a limited number of cabins that allow pets. That way people who are allergic to them would have a choice of renting a cabin in which no pets have been permitted.

I have enjoyed the West Virginia State Parks and Forrest for over fifty years. As a child my family spent two weeks every summer at Greenbrier State Forrest or Babcock State Park. As an adult I continued the tradition and included weekends in the fall.

Since West Virginia banned pets from the cabins I have been going to State Parks in Virginia where pets are welcome. I advise anyone I know that has pets that they should look into the Virginia State Parks so they won't have to board their pet. Many have started going to Virginia for vacation.

I am sure those of us who have been going to Virginia Parks have not been missed by the West Virginia Parks however we do miss going to the cabins in West Virginia. By having a limited number of cabins that allow pets and a (possible) minimal pet fee would resolve the issue of West Virginians going to Virginia for vacation with their pets.

Sally Fowler
1652 King Street
South Charleston

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hartley, Barbara J. [bjhartley@HarrCo911.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 10:19 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I THINK IF THERE IS A DEPOSIT RETAINED FROM THE GUEST IN CASE OF DAMAGES IT WOULD BE OK. I HAVE A SMALL DOG AND SHE IS NO PROBLEM. RECENTLY, WE VISITED TIMBERLINE CABINS AND WE COULDN'T TAKE HER WITH US. SO I HOPE THAT THIS RULE IS CHANGED WITH THE HOPES THAT PET OWNERS KNOW THAT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGES.

BARBARA FROM SHINNSTON WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Krystal Curtis [kdcurtis@access.k12.wv.us]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 10:03 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am very much in favor of allowing pets to stay in the cabins and lodges of the state parks of WV.

Krystal D. Curtis
4398 Cherry Run Road
Hedgesville, WV 25427

Tricia Sizemore

From: Roy Pfeiffer [r.pfeiffer@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 9:52 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pet Accommodation in State Parks

Please try to work out some way of accommodating pets in WV state parks. In order to have my approval, the total cost of this accomodation as well as protection of non pet owners to being inconvenienced by those pets should be borne by the pet's owner.

Roy Pfeiffer
2106 Weberwood Drive
So. Chas. WV 25303

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sally Jackson [sallygjack@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 5:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We would love to be able to take our dog to the Kumbrabow cabins with us. When we go to the beach, some of the homes allow pets and charge a $100.00 extra charge for pets. They also charge a refundable security deposit. Couldn't our state parks/forests do the same? I believe many people would pay extra to bring their pets. The extra charge could be used to pay the cleaning crew, and the security deposit would pay for any damage.

We think West Virginia has a wonderful state park system; keep up the good work!

Sally Jackson
119 S. Water St.
Martinsburg, WV 25401-4318

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rhonda Suggs [robosu@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 10:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

I agree that pets should be permitted in state park cabins and lodge rooms with provisions. The animal should not be disruptive ore distructive and owners would be responsible for clean up and damages.

Rhonda Suggs
robosu@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charlyn [fisherc@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 8:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

We completed our VIPP qualifications and enjoyed visiting the State Parks in WV. Then 2 years ago we adopted a rescue dog. We have not been back to the parks since that time and miss them very much. Yet our dog has traveled over 10,000 miles with us and has been welcome in pet-friendly lodging. We fully support allowing responsible pet owners to bring their pets into the cabins and lodges.

Stephen and Charlyn Fisher

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sky Kershner at KPCC [sky@kpcc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 5:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins

I am very much in favor of this idea!

Sky Kershner
Charleston
346-9689

Tricia Sizemore

From: Aimee Colagrosso [aimerbug@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 5:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

I was delighted to hear of the possible legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets in their cabin and/or room.

My husband and I love to visit our beautiful parks in West Virginia, yet most often we do not plan to spend the night because we cannot bring our dog, Nala. She is just as much a part of our family as any human member and traveling without her is sometimes simply not an option. Her company is part of the enjoyment of taking a few days off to spend hiking or relaxing and taking in nature. Kenneling her is not something we are fond of doing unless an emergency arises. It would be so wonderful to enjoy weekend getaways in our own state parks with our entire family, Nala included.

I hope those involved in making this decision will seriously consider allowing park patrons to bring along ALL members of the family! Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Aimee Colagrosso

Tricia Sizemore

From: Chapman, Laura [lchapman@eca-eaec.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 4:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets

Dear Tricia,
I would like for you to note my support for allowing pets to stay at state parks in cabins. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,
Laura Chapman
Legal/Land Technician
Eastern American Energy Corporation
501 56th St.
Charleston, WV 25304
tel. (304) 925-6100 ext. 261

Tricia Sizemore

From: troy [troyezloan@sssnet.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 4:39 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

WE TRAVEL A LOT WITH OUR SMALL TEACUP POODLE. SHE IS ONLY 4 # AND SHE DOES NOT BARK DUE TO PROPER TRAINING. WE MISS A LOT OF OPPORTUNITY WHEN PETS ((SMALL)) PETS ARE NOT ALLOWED. USUALLY A SMALL PET WILL NOT DAMAGE THE FACILITIES AND OWNERS ((USUALLY)) WITH SMALL PETS CLEAN UP AFTER THEM PROPERLY. WE UNDERSTAND THE LARGE PET PROBLEM AS WE SEE PEOPLE THAT DO NOT CLEAN UP AFTER THEM AND WE USUALL WILL COMMENT TO THEM THEY SHOULD BUT THAT DOES NOT DO MUCH GOOD. SOME PLACES WE TRAVEL ALLOW A ((SMALL)) PET. USUALLY THEY RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR NOT THE PET WHEN THEY SEE IT! I THINK SMALL PETS SHOULD BE ALLOWED AND THAT A FINE OF $50.00 FOR THOSE THAT DO NOT CLEAN UP AFTER THEIR PET WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE. A DEPOSIT HELD IN ADVANCE WITH A CHECK OUT APPROVAL FOR RETURN?
WE WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THAT OURSELVES!

--
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Anti-Virus.
Version: 7.0.323 / Virus Database: 267.7.9/23 - Release Date: 6/20/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: JPratt1@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 4:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pet policy in state park cabins

Hello.

I understand that the DNR is soliciting comments on allowing pets in a limited number of state park cabins. I strongly support allowing pets. I have a dog and am glad to pay an extra cleaning fee and/or security deposit. I presently rent from private lodging establishments that allow dogs, but would prefer to rent at state parks if the pet rule is changed.

Thanks for your consideration of this issue.

Julie Pratt
1544 Lee Street
Charleston, WV 25311

Tricia Sizemore

From: william gilbert [gill1@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 4:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

YES, but only with a deposit

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan Craddock Partain [vze2bnmb@verizon.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 4:00 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would welcome the chance to share a West Virginia vacation with my pets and would like to see others have the same opportunity. Please make accommodations in the parks available to those with pets. Best regards, Susan Partain

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cox, Elsie [ecox@TrianaEnergy.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 2:44 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I feel most people who have pets take care of them - meaning they see that the pet has adequate water, food and bathroom trips (just like children). The pet is always on a leash and the person taking the pet out usually has disposal bags and towels to clean the pet and pick up the fecal matter. So I feel those people seeking cabins should be allowed to keep their pets and if there is a mess that is not cleaned up I feel the park area should be able to bill for the clean up. There will be times that maybe a pet is sick (just like children) and possibly a slight odor after clean up – but adequate airing of the room will eliminate any odor.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ablesdeer@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 2:12 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Sheila_Ables@yahoo.com
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in **FAVOR** of the animal staying in cabins. The DNR is aways trying to save the animals and teaches people about animals. We go to parks to see and learn about wild life is that not animals. I feel that by not allowing your pet to go camping with you, is going aganist what DNR stands for and teaches us. It also limits a lot of people from visiting parks, do to the hassel of having to find someone to watch your pet. I personally will not camp at a place my dog is not welcome because to me he is a part of my family. I also understand too the importance of pets on leash and away from other campers.
Thank you,
Sheila_Ables@yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 1:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Robert Weekley [mailto:weeks8381@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:27 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

When will we find out if we can have our pets in the State Park cabins? We were at Tygart Lodge tonight for dinner and went up to the cabins. They a beautiful and we would love to rent a cabin but cannot leave my dog "Charlie" in a kennel to stay in a cabin.

Bob

Tricia Sizemore

From: crshrmn3 [crshrmn3@sbcglobal.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 1:22 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,
I would like to say that I approve of allowing pets in state park cabin and lodge areas. As long as the pets are required to be healthy, well-behaved and leashed, I don't foresee many problems. Many people like to travel with their pets and would appreciate the chance to visit WV's beautiful cabins and lodges.

Thank you for the chance to respond,
Aimee Steiding
Scottown, OH

Tricia Sizemore

From: Denise Giardina [deniseg5@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 12:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: dog friendly

I'm writing to ask that dogs be allowed to stay in designated state park cabins. I used to enjoy staying in WV state parks as a child, but I never go now because I always travel with my dog. When I want to enjoy the outdoors in WV I have to stay in private facility, either private cabins or motels. That means I can't enjoy staying at a state park. There should be no problem with dogs if they are leashed and if their owners pick up after them with plastic bags. People who travel with their dogs have generally already trained the dog. More and more hotel and motel chains allow pets. What they have found, and what you will find, is that business increases if pets are allowed, since more and more people include their dogs as part of the family. I hope you will open WV state park cabins to dogs.

Thank you.
Denise Giardina
306 Park Ave.
Charleston WV 25302
346-4315

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bbayes2@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:59 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Pet cabins in state parks

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on a proposal to designate some cabins as pet friendly in WV wonderful state parks.

Although I do not travel with my pets, I strongly support designated pet cabins. I think it would increase state park tourism. Many people need their pets with them for support, particularly elderly folks. Also people on fixed or low incomes may find it difficult to rent a cabin and kennel their pet at the same time. I think that a pet friendly policy will open the door to a group of new people who would be introduced to WV parks. An example of pet friendly facilities improving business comes to mind. My daughter who does travel with her beloved dog, Honey, lives on the West Coast and often travels back home. She stays exclusively, if available, at Motel 6s because of their pet policy. I also have a friend here who stays at private cabins in Pocahontas county, rather than staying at Watoga, because the private cabins allow well-behaved pets. People who want to stay at state parks and want their pets with them will likely develop the same kind of loyalty to our parks.

Barbara Bayes
Rt. 1 Box 105 c
Alum Creek, WV 25003

Barbara Bayes
RT. 1 Box 105C
Alum Creek, WV 25003

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brian Conover [bconover1@earthlink.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:50 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: i have a comment on pets in cabins at wv state parks

I think allowing pets in cabins would be great idea! We have a yellow lab, and she loves to be with us, and each year we must leave her to go to our favorite cabin at Lost River State Park. I am not sure how strictly the rule is currently enforced...we stayed at Lost River last year, and the cabin next to us was rented for a long weekend, and the tenants had TWO dogs with them! I'm not sure the lodge room idea would be good, because of the proximity of rooms, but with the cabins, I don't foresee a problem.
Thanks, BC

Brian Conover
bconover1@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Margaret Arnold [marney6@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:45 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in State Parks

To whom it may concern:

I am opposed to having pets stay in the cabins and/or lodges of our beautiful parks. Many are allergic to pet dander and that is hard to eradicate once it is in the facilities. Also I don't like the messes the pets make in the outside areas. The parks have survived a long time with nothing but the wild animals. Let's keep it that way. I have enjoyed the parks for many years; we have always found someone to keep our pets while we were away. It works. So please do not allow a a
change in the "No pets allowed" policy.

Sincerely yours,

Margaret Arnold
814 Ann Street
Ravenswood, WV 26164

Tricia Sizemore

From: ArlaKR@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 8:56 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in state parks

Mr. Pope: My husband and I love to travel around West Virginia and we often take our dog. We usually rent cabins and would definitely spend a lot of our travel time and money at the state parks if that was an option. We are used to putting down an extra deposit and/or paying an additional cleaning fee. I think the current proposal is a good one for families and the state and I hope you will give it serious consideration. Thank You. Arla Ralston 201 50th Street Charleston, WV 25304

Tricia Sizemore

From: judy phillips [jrmphillips@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 8:00 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

I definitely support legislation to allow pets in state park cabins. I have a dog, and I would welcome the chance to be able to bring him on a state park trip. I'd rather stay in a cabin that has had pets than one that has had smokers. The cabins are built so that they can be cleaned well, and the pets should pose no problems. Pets are family members and should be part of the family vacation.

Sincerely,
Judy M. Phillips
PO Box 206
Pipestem, WV 25979

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brown, Sondra S. [Sondra.Brown@va.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 7:39 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We would really like to bring our dog with us when we visit/stay over at State Park Cabins. Most dogs that travel with their owners are well trained, and would never soil or tear up a cabin or residence. There could be stipulations on their behavior or perhaps some consequences if they damage any property. All shots should be up to date, nails should be trimmed, leash laws observed, etc.

Thanks for the chance to give our opinions on this matter. We'd really love it... We have a Lab that travels with us where ever we go. We leave our cat at home, because he could get loose accidentally from the cabin, and be lost.

Bill and Sonnie Brown
Rt. 6, Box 780
Clarksburg, WV 26301

Ph. 304-622-7669

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kathy Jones [jonesrk44@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 10:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My wife and I rent a cabin in a Wv state park at least once a year.We look forward to it every year.We have two small dogs,no more than 13 lbs.each.Both are house trained and do not chew furniture.It would be great if we could bring them along.They go on vacation with us to the beach,it would be nice to be able to take them to state parks in the cabins.We would be more than willing to sign an agreement to pay for any damages occured. Rich Jones

Tricia Sizemore

From: Edie McDowell [emcdowell@citlink.net]

Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 8:00 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Cc: emcdowell@citlink.net

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it would be better to have pets such as dogs in the cabins - as they would be able to stay outdoors much of the time. However, I do not think it would be a good idea to have them in lodge rooms - they could damage the room to some degree. Perhaps the lodge could provide an animal shelter for family pets. A state park has many opportuni-ties to take their pets with them for walks, hikes, picnics, etc. My family has two dogs and they are with us at all times - we are thinking about renting a cabin this summer but do not care to leave our pets at a shelter or have someone else take care of them - they are very attached to us and likewise. So I hope you can work something out.
Sounds like a good idea and you may get more tourists this way as many people have pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: SUZANNE WILLIAMS-MCAULIFFE [SMCAULIFFE@hfslawyers.com]

Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 3:00 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV state parks

How timely! I was just getting on the website to see if pets were allowed in the cabins! I'm a lifelong WVian. My husband and I now live in Shepherdstown. Like so many "empty nesters," our 2 dogs (pembroke welsh corgis) fill the void left in our hearts when our youngest left for college. We take them everywhere with us. I have suggested to my husband that we work our way around the state, staying at the park cabins – this would let us have affordable weekend mini-vacations through the year. BUT we want to take our canine children. Also, my husband has adult children in Mass. who we would love to have spend Xmas or other holidays at one or more of WV's great parks (parks are horrible in Mass.) – but like us, they travel with their furry children. Please, please become pet friendly!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debbie Fox [dlfox@bww.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 2:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets overnight in state parks

I wanted to put in my "vote" concerning allowing pets to spend the night in the WV state parks. I remember as a child being able to bring our dog when we spent a week in a cabin at various parks, and now as an adult would love to be able to provide that memory for my children as well.

I can't wait to hear how this goes! Thanks for the consideration!

Debbie Fox
Raleigh, NC (WV native)
919-847-5777

Tricia Sizemore

From: GoldPress@aol.com

Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 2:03 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

We love our dogs and we would stay at the West Virginia lodges more often if we could take them with us. We have taken them to certain motels and have had no problems. We clean up after them.
Laurie Johnston

Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Twardzak [Twardzak@ManTech-WVA.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 11:35 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets and State Park Cabins

Dear Tricia,
We are in favor of allowing pets in all West Virginia state parks and facilities.

Thanks for asking,

Larry and Nita Twardzak
RR 5, Box 972
Grafton, WV 26354

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cynthia McCarran [keilsmom@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 9:02 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park

We think that it is a good idea to allow people to bring their cats and dogs with them when they stay in state park cabins and lodge rooms. These types of pets are no more destructive than small children when properly supervised. Also, it is our experience that the cabins tend to have mouse problems, and having a few cats around would help that situation. For most people, their pets are part of their family and they want to prevent the pet from feeling anxiety from separation from the owners. Also, it may encourage more people to use the cabins and lodge rooms, increasing revenue to the state parks. Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Sincerely, Peter and Cynthia McCarran, 35 Noble Street, Coxsackie, NY 12051

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gloria Annie [glannie@ntelos.net]

Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 7:42 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My whole family lives and works in WV. We do not vacation here because of the NO PETS ALLOWED rules. We plan our vacations around hotels/cabins that allow pets. We would be one of the first to rent one of the cabins here in WV if they would be Pet Friendly.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kathleen Rullo [KathleenRullo@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 7:37 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am planning to travel through West Virginia in July. I would like to stay at Hawk's Nest or Babcock State Parks and to take my children hiking, horseback riding and rafting but it is not possible to stay there because we will be traveling with our dog.

I'd like to see some type of system in place that can accommodate pets, even if it is a kennel on site at some of the state parks. I understand that pets can be offensive to people who do not have them and I also understand that not everyone oversees or cleans up after their pet adequately, but it would be much more convenient for those of us passing through your beautiful state if there were some accomodations available for our pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Madeline Hinton [mhinton@ircc.edu]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 7:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We are very fond of the West Virginia State Parks. We have 2 small dogs(who don't realize they are dogs) and we refrain from going places they cannot accompany us. I would advocate their acceptance especially in cabins.

Madeline K. Hinton

Counselor, Educational Services

(772)462-7803

mhinton@ircc.edu

Tricia Sizemore

From: Catherine Mauro [catherinemauro011@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 6:32 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I would like to enthusiastically encourage you to allow pets in the state park cabins. I have been travelling with my dogs for 16 years now (various ones over the years), including many vacations or weekends at the state parks in WV. We have always had to stay in motels, some of which are not all that close to the park, or lately in the campground (I bought a camper specifically so I would be able to stay in the park). My dogs have always travelled well, and are (fairly) well behaved (will make a little noise if they hear people making noise outside our motel room), and they are Front-Lined so they don't have fleas to leave behind. I have often asked if we could stay in a cabin if I laft a security deposit against damages, but of course the answer was no. In my many stays at hotel or motel rooms, my dogs have never done any damages. In fact, most of the damages I have seen in motel rooms are not from dogs at all but from people - cigarette burns in the bedspread or on the vanity, stains (which don't look like animal stains) everywhere.

Those of us who travel with pets are (usually) very sensitive to the fact that there are limited places to stay with a pet, so we tend to be extra cautious and considerate with our animals. I would be happy to put a refundable deposit against damages when I stay with my dogs, although I have to tell you I am reluctant to pay any but a small ($5) additional non-refundable fee, as a room for only one person tends to get expensive since it is often as much as a double, but with no one to split the expense.

I would be interested in hearing how this turns out. If you decide in favor of it, how do you propose to get the word out? When will you make a decision?

While you're at it, maybe you could consider allowing pets on the Cass Scenic Railroad, another WV attraction I have had to forgo because I always vacation with my pets.

Thanks for considering this issue. I hope you decide to go with it.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jill Ross [jillross@westco.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 11:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Hello--

As a dog owner, I'd like to comment on the possible legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets in state parks. On more than one occasion I have looked into staying overnight in WV state parks and have decided not to because pets were not allowed. I have a well-trained and well-behaved German Shepherd that I enjoy traveling with. I would definitely be an overnight guest in that state parks if I could have my dog with me. Thanks for considering this legislation.

Jill A. Ross
1337 Fairmont Road
Morgantown, WV 26501
(304) 983-2486

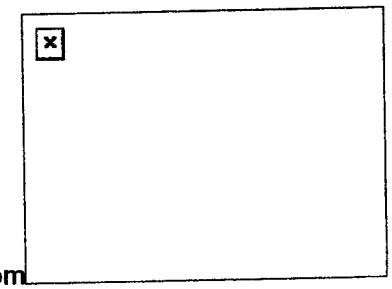
Tricia Sizemore

From: NGreyhound@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 11:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We are looking for a place to go that allowes pets, otherwise we will unable to visit any of your cabins in the state parks.

Thanks
Bernard Nicholas
Rt.2, Box 249
Milton, WV. 25541

e-mail ngreyhound@aol.com



Tricia Sizemore

From: Uppy217@aol.com

Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 10:01 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

As a responsible owner of a dog and a traveler, I believe you should allow for pets. We pay for our pets to be boarded while out of town...why not make the money directly from us by charging a pet rate??? It not only keeps us lodging in WV but it will also increase your bottom line by charging us to bring pets. Pets are to some of us like children....you charge for children...why not charge for pets (security deposits should cover irresponsible pet owners).

Security is mostly a superstition. It does not exist in nature, nor do the children of men as a whole experience it. Avoiding danger is no safer in the long run than outright exposure. Life is a daring adventure or nothing at all.
Helen Keller

Diana

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jeanie Lokant [lokant@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 7:08 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

We have a dog that we take with us everywhere. We treat him for fleas and ticks on a regular basis, as most pet owners do.
It would be a treat to stay in a cabin with our dog. My husband and I think they should be allowed.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ann Payne [paynestake@verizon.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 4:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

I have heard it may soon be possible to bring pets overnight to WV State Parks! How fabulous!

I recently conducted a survey of local hotels/motels in the Morgantown area and was happily surprised to learn almost all facilities here allow pets to stay overnight. Yet I also recently decided NOT to bring my family to a WV State Park, because we would have had to board our dogs.

I hope you consider a refundable damage deposit to cover problems with any irresponsible pet owners. That would allow the rest of us to enjoy vacations with you in the future.

I send encouragements that this legislation be passed! Thank you so much for considering it.

Ann Cork Payne
341 Sanford Street
Morgantown WV 26501

P.S. According to our estimates here in Monongalia County, more than 1/3 (closer to 1/2) of households keep one or more dogs as members of their household.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patrick and Laurie Conway [newb@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 1:50 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

As long as people pick up after their pets it should be fine. Having your dog along for a hike, etc can really enhance your outdoor experience and it makes it more convenient for people with pets to visit. They don't have the added expense for boarding or the guilt of leaving a family "member" at home. Some cabins or rooms could be designated pet free for those with allergies. I think it's a great idea.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carol Battin [pagenie@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 12:59 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would very much like to bring our dog when renting a cabin. For our family, it would be a deciding factor in staying at a WV park or going to an out-of-state location.

Thank you,

Carol Battin
Washington, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Joshua Daniels [Josh8587@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 10:56 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To whom it may concern:

I believe that the idea of allowing pets to stay with their owner in West Virginia State Parks and cabins is a good idea if it has regulations. The pet should not be allowed to bark or make loud noise constantly and the owner would have to reimburse the park or cabin for any damages done by the pet. I hope my comments help you with this legislation.

Josh Daniels

Tricia Sizemore

From: aschmitt@uchicago.edu
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 10:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Hello,

I recently heard of the legislation being considered that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possible in lodge rooms. I think this is a wonderful idea!

I have been a visitor to West Virginia many times and enjoyed its nature and history. One of my favorite places to visit is Cacapon, but I was sad when I was there that my dogs couldn't be with me to enjoy the natural setting, hikes, etc. I have often wanted to visit, and decided not to because it would be more fun with the dogs, and it is expensive to kennel them when we travel.

I would love to have such a beautiful place to travel with my dogs, and I know I would visit much more often if I were able to bring them with me.

Thank you for considering this long overdue legislation.

Sincerely,
Alicia Schmitt
(Pittsburgh resident, and former D.C. area resident)

Tricia Sizemore

From: Juandge@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 10:28 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I would love to be able to take our dog with us. We would have come more often in the past if we didn't have to find a baby sitter for her. All pets should be on a leash and well behaved but they are part of our family too.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sci-Fi fan [sg1fan@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:45 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am for this as long as there owners clean up after them and keep the cabins clean. Maybe a fee could be charged and if there is messes left they dont get there money back. If thats to much trouble, charge a small fee to have a pet there and they dont get there money back in case of accidents at all.

Amanda Kirk

Tricia Sizemore

From: coachdfox@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 2:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Dear Mr. Pope:
As a frequent to West Virginia State Parks and other outdoor recreation areas, I request that you do not allow overnight guests to keep pets in cabins or lodge rooms. This proposal, if adopted, would reduce the quality of the experience for other users, pose sanitation risks, and endanger wildlife. The smell, noise, and excrement created by household pets would simply be too obnoxious for those who have reasonable expectations of a clean, quiet, and enjoyable outdoor experience.
Sincerely,
Dwight Fox
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mechelle Halstead [lexiann3@msn.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 2:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins

Dear Mr. John R. Pope,

Please, Let us bring our pets to the cabins and lodges. I often trave by my self and would love to bring my dog with me to stay over night in the parks. For me to enjoy the weekends that I want to enjoy this means leaving a part of the family home. There is so much I can do during the day at the park, and it would not be to hard to include my dog in this Outdoor picnics, hiking and meeting up with family or friends. The only reason I don't stay often is because of the trouble in finding a responsible person to pet sit and not being able to just take my dog with me. If the persons who pet sits for me wants to go anywhere at the same time that I want to go this means me staying home.

My pet sitters are my father and mother during the work week. My dog has become a great assest to the family because she will stay with my father and alert the other family members to any problems he or my mother are having. Both have health issues and attempt to remain active, this means that they contunue to participate in water sport, ATV riding, or just going through the woods on an enjoyable ride for shorter distances and at a pace that matches their ablility. If they got into trouble I know the family dog would stay with them. She barks for me or the other family members when she senses the need for one of us to be with my parents. I know that she is not a service dog, but as I see it she is a full fledged member of my family and as a member of this family she can tell what the other members may be needing.

As for myself If I want to walk for a while or go and do something it puts me at ease and gives me some company. I take take her with us and not have to be alone so much. I work a lot and most of the time I take long weekends to get away at the parks, If I am in Southern WV and want to go to a park a few hours away where do my dog and I stay? Answer: IN THE PARK WOULD BE NICE!!! Sorry for yelling, But really, think about this: You let kids in the park, and how may times have dogs or cats left paper wrappers, trash or anything along that line in the park? How destructive or disruptive is a dog compared to a human, and how may parents send the kids to obidience school.

Thank-you for your time on this subject. I know people have allergies, don't like pets or noise in the cabins and lodges, but maybe rooms could be designated for pets or designate a part of the lodge for a cozy pet lobby to avoid major problems. I have enjoyed the Parks at PipeStem and North Bend both and stayed overnight and couldn't ask for better service or hospitality that what I recived during my stay.

Find just what you're after with the new, more precise MSN Search - try it now!

Tricia Sizemore

From: mathgirl3@juno.com
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 2:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Dogs in the Parks

Hi! I have been going to the WV state parks for my entire life of 56 years. I think dogs should be allowed to be in the cabins. People should be fined if they have dogs that bark all night or do things to the cabins, but they should be allowed the option. I hope you do reconsider. It is not fair that we all be punished for those that have bad dogs.

Sinceely,
Kristen Thompson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nickidoolittle@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 12:45 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I'm all for it! Many people consider pets a park of their family and most of the time are prohibited from state parks and camping because they cannot bring their pets.

Thanks
Nichole Huffman

Tricia Sizemore

From: CrystalRT5@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 11:54 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in cabins

I think there should be several designated cabins where dogs and pets are allowed, but several where pets are prohibited.

Crystal Tang

Tricia Sizemore

From: Catherine Blake [cblake@cellularoneweb.com]
ent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 11:09 AM
.o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I THINK IT SHOULD DEFINITELY BE ALLOWED

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nancy Mills [nancy@pairohermits.com]

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 10:35 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I'm writing in support of the proposed change in legislation to allow pets in State Parks cabins. As pets are currently allowed in campgrounds, I believe this would be a desirable feature. Some sort of refundable damage deposit might be considered or an extra charge ($5 or $10) added as many motels do. It might be best to allow pets in cabins first and monitor the results before considering also allowing them in lodge rooms. I am concerned that barking dogs could be a nuisance to neighboring guests in the closer confines of the lodge facilities.

I would suggest that if this change is implemented, it might be on a trial basis with close follow-up of both guests with and those without pets carried out using a survey or interview format. Of course, if all the response you receive regarding this proposed change is positive, perhaps this would not be necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,
Nancy Mills

Tricia Sizemore

From: kathy hughes yates [imbhavin@msn.com]

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 10:14 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am in support of allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms. but I would like to suggest that there be pets allowed rooms and cabins, similar to no smoking rooms. Rooms, cabins dedicated to pet owners.

Tricia Sizemore

From: catwomanwv [catwomanwv@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Yes, pets should be allowed in state park lodges and cabins. Many pets are an extension of a persons family and by not allowing them, the state is in fact discriminating.

Respectfully,
Tami Samoriga
Oak Hill, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: perryville [perryville@frontiernet.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:38 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,

I would like to vote 'yes' on this issue. We love to camp and have no problem with dogs being there, in fact, we love to meet new canine friends. We have a dog, but we don't bring him camping because he is neurotic. And I think most campers are responsible enough to realize whether their dog is capable of being in a cabin/lodge without causing a problem. I also think more folks would camp if they knew they could bring their pet.

Sincerely,
Angela Perry
304-724-1710

Tricia Sizemore

From: melanie hornsby [mellodog@alltel.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 8:06 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hi! My name is Melanie Hornsby and I have been a long-time visitor to Seneca State Forest. When I was a child back in the 60's we were allowed to bring our German Shepherd, Duchess, with us to the cabin. Those were some of the best times we ever had with her, and we all remember them fondly. It was at treat for her to be able to get out in the woods. However, I realize that now it would not be practical to let any animals run free in the woods as we did then, but I do feel that letting them stay in the cabins would not be a problem. I suppose there could be a problem with such things as fleas and fur, but people could clean up the fur before they check out, and if fleas were found they could easily be controlled as there are no carpets in the cabins, at least at Seneca. We would love to be able to bring our dog with us to the cabin. Just my thoughts....

Thank you,

Melanie Hornsby

Tricia Sizemore

From: NATSADKINS@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 5:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To Whom it May Concern,

I as a West Virginia resident and a state park user believe pets should be allowed in the cabins, as they are allowed in the campgrounds. I believe there should be some limitations set also. Some suggestions would be the following:

1. No vicious breeds (pit bulls, Doberman, etc) should be allowed.

2. Owners should be held responsible for any damages and cleaning up after their own pet.

Even some sort of a refundable deposit could be made after an inspection of the cabin.
I know I personably would not mind of making some sort of small deposit if my pet could accompany my family.

Thank you,
Natalie Adkins
2685 Tom's Creek Road
Barboursville, WV 25504

Tricia Sizemore

From: Poppavogenitz@aol.com

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 5:15 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

We always travel with our dog and it would sure be nice not to worry about where we could or could not stay. Knowing our pet was welcome in the state park campground lodges and cabins would definitely result in my family getting away to enjoy what the state parks have to offer.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sheila Hall [nabaclish@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments About Pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

This letter is in response to The Parks and Recreations Section of the WV Division of Natural Resources requesting comments about possible legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possible in lodge rooms.

Many people believe that pets are an integral part of their family unit, and wish to bring them along on family vacations. As long as the pets are well supervised and cleaned up after, this shouldn't even be an issue. Also, often times, people have no choice but to bring their pet along, as there is no one they can rely on to watch their beloved pet and boarding costs a fortune (at that point, you might not even be able to afford to go on vacation). Many dog lovers are outdoors people, and love to bring their canine companions with them as they explore the natural beauty of West Virginia. I do believe that if legislation allowed pets to be kept in state park cabins, this would benefit not only the community, but also tourism in West Virginia.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this point of view, and for requesting to hear from the community.

Yours,
Sheila and Tracy Mazur.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ted Davis [zen5zen@hotmail.com]

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:27 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I feel strongly that pets should be allowed in cabins at WV State Parks. I think that a damage fee could be assessed if there is damage due to the pet(s). I have a hard time getting a pet sitter and it is also expensive. I know I would rent a cabin more frequently if my pet was allowed too.
I hope this proposal gets accepted. There are many hotels who have learned that business picks up by allowing pets to stay in the rooms.
Ted Davis
HC83 Box68B
Gap Mills, WV 24941
772-4490

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patricia Bailey [pbailey@cellularoneweb.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Definitely in favor! We would come more often and so would our out of state families if pets were allowed!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Maribeth Hook [mhook@URA.ORG]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:03 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

Please consider opening up the WV State Park cabins and lodges to pets, particularly dogs. West Virginia is my favorite place to visit, though I may be partial, as it is also home (Bridgeport High School, 1975, West Virginia University, 1979). But my visits to WV have been few over the past years because I travel with my dogs. I would gladly pay an extra fee to stay in any of the state parks. I would gladly provide information on my dogs training. The AKC has a test that any dog can take, the Canine Good Citizens test. Those people who take the time to train for the test are owners who value their dogs behavior, and would value their ability to revisit WV's wonderful parks. Plus encouraging people to provide more training for their dog only makes the world better for all dog owners.

Thank you for considering to allow pets in the cabins and lodges! I will be one of your first visitors if the program moves forward! Please feel free to contact me if there is anything I can do to help.

Maribeth Hook, RA, RLA
511 South Lang Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15208
412-609-1038

Obedience instructor, Western PA Humane Society
Agility, flyball, and partner, Splash and Dash Agility
Former Board member, Animal Friends

The Parks and Recreations Section of the WV Division of Natural Resources is
seeking public comments about possible legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and
possible in lodge rooms.

Your comments regarding this legislation are encouraged. Comments must be
in written format by July 7, 2005.

Please direct comments to:

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Or e-mail: _triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov_
mailto:triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov) and
include "Public Comment About Pets" in the subject line.

Maribeth Hook, RA, RLA
Project Manager
Engineering and Construction
Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh
412-255-6664
mhook@ura.org

Tricia Sizemore

From: Leffingwell, Trina [Trina.Leffingwell@riverparkhospital.net]

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 2:01 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I know that there are people who would speak out against animals in the cabins, but as an animal lover I have to say that it would be nice for people to be able to bring their pets with them when they stay. There are many people who love their pets as if they were their children. These people love to travel with their pets and as long as rules are in place to be followed, I don't see what the harm is in letting people bring their pets when enjoying our State Parks.
I would also like to point out that there is a benefit to the parks in letting people bring their pets. It is very hard as a pet owner to find places that allow you to bring your pet on vacation with you. I think that if someone saw that they would be able to bring their pet with them to the cabins in the State Parks then they may decide to go on vacation there, rather than somewhere else.
Thank you,
Trina Leffingwell

Tricia Sizemore

From: walter anthony [walteranthony@excite.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 1:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comments about pets

John R Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park

Mr. Pope,

My wife and I "discovered" West Virginia State Parks ten years ago. We were amazed at the amount of resources that the state has put into these parks. West Virginia puts to shame the state of Maryland in this aspect, and Maryland has nothing like West Virginia's resort parks. The result is that the state parks of West Virginia are most inviting and welcoming to visitors.

If you were to allow pets into state parks, you would create that much more of an inviting and welcoming environment. Right now when we travel to West Virginia, we have to board our dog. But if you were to relieve us of that burden by welcoming dogs, West Virginia parks would be all that more attractive. Being able to bring one's dog would provide vacationers a real option, and would tip the scales in West Virginia's favor. While vacationing in another state would mean added costs of boarding one's pet.

Further, I thoroughly enjoy traveling with my dog. She is a very enjoyable companion, and I do seek out ways to spend vacation time with her. To allow dogs into West Virginia state parks would allow me to do just that, and I would increase my efforts to vacation in West Virginia.

I would not object to a security deposit while staying at a state facility. Responsible pet owners would not, and strive to make sure their animals cause no damage. Though I am sure there are those who would abuse such a privilege, the good will you would create would attract that much more visitation. Ultimately, I am sure that West Virginia would end up ahead by attracting more tourist dollars than it would lose.

I applaud your considering such a move, and I look forward to being able to take advantage of a favorable decision in the future by being able to bring along on my vacations to West Virginia my dog and friend.

Thank you,

Douglas W. Adolphsen

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Tricia Sizemore

From: taburdette@aep.com
ent: Friday, June 17, 2005 12:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Dogs in cabins

Tricia, I would like to voice my support for allowing dogs in the cabins at Watoga State park, We are dog owners who share our home with our dogs, We love Watoga and would undoubtedly spend more time there but, because we have dogs and we will not kennel them ,We are restricted on where and when we can visit the park. Thank you for your time.

Tricia Sizemore

From: TyrCook@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 12:25 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: (no subject)

Over the years we have spent many nights in the cabins at Seneca State Forest and Watoga State Park. For many of those years, friends would bring their dogs. A few years ago we were alerted that dogs were no longer allowed. We are hopeful that pets will be returned as welcome quests at the cabins. As for the lodges, you could establish a certain set of rooms where pets are allowed and distribute on a first come, first serve basis, rather than open all rooms up to pet occupation.

Thanks for allowing us the chance to provide opinion.

David and Roberta Cook
1985 Parkwood Road
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: Daniel Anderson [Daniel.Anderson@grainger.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 12:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think it would be great to offer people the opportunity to take their pets with them at a minimum in slected lodge rooms or selected cabins. Some motels offer such room accomodations based on the size of the animal. My wife and I have stayed in the State's cabins before and have found it enjoyable, however, it is very difficult to find a good kennel in the Charleston area or someone else to sit with them. That usually keeps us from taking advantage of our State Parks wonderful lodging opportunites.

Dan Anderson
Branch Manager 120
Charleston, WV
office 304.744.1383
cell 304.552.4814
fax 304.744.3159

Tricia Sizemore

From: Missy McLaughlin [missy.mclaughlin.b@bayer.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 11:53 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think this is a good idea.

Missy McLaughlin
86 E. Thistle Drive
New Martinsville WV 26155
email missyed@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kim Bjorgo [Kim.Bjorgo@mail.wvu.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Ms Sizemore:

I am the owner of two well-behaved and professionally trained dogs who just so happen to love camping and the outdoors as much as I do. I am very much in favor of allowing responsible pet owners and their wards to use state parks cabins. There are certainly 'bad apples' with untrained animals and poor ownership standards. However, those of us who diligently supervise, clean up after, and are ambassadors for good pet behavior should not be punished for their transgressions.

Please consider the responsible pet owners when making the decision to allow pets into the State Parks cabins.

Respectfully,

Kim Bjorgo

<:>< ><:> <:>< ><:>

Kim Bjorgo, Lecturer

West Virginia University Dept. of Biology

55 Campus Drive Box 6057

Morgantown, WV 26506

kbjorgo@wvu.edu

http://www.as.wvu.edu/kbjorgo

Tricia Sizemore

From: W Renn [pspstimpy@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 10:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in cabins response

To whom it may concern:

I believe that allowing pets to reside at or in cabins at any of the state parks has its pros and cons.

More and more pets are considered part of the family and families take pride in sharing their time and money with their and for their pets. So from a marketing stand point, you may be able to attract more customers, more frequent and diverse customers, if there was a way to accommodate these furry and loved members of the family. Souvenirs could be make just for these pets. Imagine a fake bone or toy with the park logo! There could also be special amenities.

The con would be that (1) some customers may not like pets. The possible noise, excrement, and or fleas, could cause some resistance to stay. The only way I know to fix that issue would be to set aside a few cabins, perhaps in a certain area. This would be similar to separating the smokers from the non-smokers in a restaurant. (2) possible additional wear-and-tear and/or damage to property. But this can be placed within the reservation contract with an initial box stateing that "I have requested this park to allow me to keep my pet within the cabin and the cabin area. For this reason, I assume full responsiblity for any damage arising out of my pets ehavior, lifestyle, etc etc etc. This would be the same as if their child oroke a window, or their car rolled into the porch and broke the screen door. There is already a preumed liability by the customer if their behavior or actions cause damage.

I think not to take advantage of this opportunity would be poor marketing. I also think there are more families with pets than without pets. Just make it work for both..and there should be no issue.

Will Renn
past employee
1995-2000

Tricia Sizemore

From: Joan Zeiders [jzeiders@webtv.net]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 10:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

I received a post card asking for my opinion about permitting overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

Although I am not a pet owner, I have no problem with pets being with their owners in state park cabins or lodge rooms. The types of people whom I have met spending time in these facilities are very fine, outdoors loving, conservation types and since these people appear to be so reponsible in their personal lives...I think that their pets would be very well behaved in your facilities.

I have very much enjoyed spending time in WV's State Parks and I look forward to many more happy experiences in the parks of WV.

Joan Zeiders

Tricia Sizemore

From: whiteymac [whiteymac@wvdnd.org]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 9:52 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Hi,

I have heard from several sources that this issue is being discussed, and I'd like to weigh-in on it, if I may.

I am a native (7th generation) West Virginian, from Fayette County, currently residing in Monongalia County.

My extended family spends at least one week/year in the cabins at Stonewall Jackson, and generally another week at other parks in the state, and I've always been a little perturbed about the pet policy (especially since I've seen what the kids running around these areas are capable of!

I've quit using the campground at Summersville because of their pet policy, and we used to spend a week there every year.

I know there are plenty of pros/cons out there on this issue, but there are plenty of responsible pet owners who would benefit greatly from a change in the existing policy.

FYI – I am the founder of West Virginia Dog N Disc www.wvdnd.org , a non-profit Frisbee dog club with over 50 members scattered across the state, and my dogs have passed the AKC canine good citizen test, and one is a certified therapy dog. I take him to hospitals, nursing homes, public events/places, and he is MUCH better behaved than even most of the adults! I am also a founding board member of M-DOG (Morgantown Dog Owners Group), who planned out the first dog park in the state, and I am sure our board would be happy to assist you in anyway possible as you're evaluating this issue ands setting up a policy.

Providing dog owners with clear rules on what is expected (picking up after their dogs, outlining dog-break areas, medical requirements), and possibly even providing a fenced-in area (aka, mini-dog park), and swimming area (where possible), would greatly pro-actively reduce/eliminate any confusion and most conflict issues, and I'm sure you'll find most owners will be more than happy to comply. Owners could/should be asked to provide proof of vaccinations (including kennel cough), and proof of flea control, and if this is requested at the time the reservation is made, it would allow them the time needed to obtain it, if they don't already have it covered. Again, responsible owners should have no problem with this.

Thanks for giving this area consideration, and if I can be of any help please feel free to give me a call/email.

Best Regards,

Charles 'Whitey' McDaniel
Hobbits Glenn
Masontown WV 26542
304-864-0870

Tricia Sizemore

From: Scott, Kathy D [Kathy.Scott@bellsouth.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 8:59 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Good Morning...

I believe that pets should be allowed...possibly with restrictions for size and number. It would not be unreasonable to have an additional charge for the pet to allow for possible extra cleaning needs that may be required (vacuuming pet hair, etc). We will be retired soon and have a small dog that will have to go with us wherever we go which drastically limits the places we can visit.

Thank you for asking...

Kathy D. Scott
Customer Service Associate
BellSouth Business Systems
888 313-1448 (voice)
800 797-8838 (fax)
kathy.scott@bellSouth.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Teresa Burdette [yorkshirekib@gmail.com]
ent: Friday, June 17, 2005 8:24 AM
ro: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think it would be wonderful if I could bring my dog with me. We currently tent camp because of the no pet policy. I am sure we would vist a whole lot more if we were allowed to bring our second "baby" with us. Watoga is our favorite park to come visit. We try to send a spring and fall week there every year. Thank you, Teresa Burdette
yorkshirekib@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: SBeachhagg@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:15 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Dear Mr. Pope,
I have had the pleasure of speaking with you on this topic earlier this year by phone.You were most gracious in taking my call and giving me your time . I am thrilled that you are re-visiting this issue. I am definitely for allowing pets in the cabins and/or lodge rooms. I am a responsible owner who believes in picking up after my dog. She is friendly, and well behaved,more so than many children I have seen I just received a newsletter by e-mail from wv state parks and once again wishing that you would allow pets when I ran across your public opinion call! To say that I would be first in line if you were to change your ruling would be an understatement. Please keep me informed by e-mail, I am so interested in the outcome.
Thank you again for the chance to vote an enthusiastic Yes! Please!
Sharon Miller < My e-mail address is:
Sbeachhagg@aol.com
SBeachhagg

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lonnie Williamson [nopojan@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think persons should be allowed to have pets in cabins, I am not so sure about the lodge rooms. The fleas would cause me some concern unless you are going to have exterminators in after each visitor with a pet.

Lonnie

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Lisa Boyer [ljboyer@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

This is a wonderful idea, I completely support you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wvacampfire@cs.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 8:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments About Pets in State Parks

I believe that pets should be allowed in a controlled manner not only in cabins but also campgrounds. With proper supervision and control, I know more people would camp at state parks for certain as 4 family groups of us in 4 separate campers recently spent 2 nights at a private campground because one of our group has a small dog that is the same to them as the children they never had. They would not think of leaving him behind and we decided against camping at a state park only because of this. We plan a full summer of weekend trips such as just described but do not plan on a single state park only because of this omission. Certainly, those who do not clean up after their pet or allow them to go uncontrolled should be evicted but with past experiences in private campgrounds which seem to welcome the pet, I've had no negative experiences. More pets, more campers, more revenue!

Jeff Hollis
Martinsburg, W. Va

Tricia Sizemore

From: ctno [ctno@charter.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 8:47 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,

I'd like to say that I'm in favor of pets in cabins. Many people like to travel with their pets, and as a long time hiker and animal lover, I must say I've found most to be the nicest, most responsible people I've met. I would think the benefits in terms of good people more willing to stay in a state park cabin because they can bring their pets would be a definite plus.

Regards,

Anne Deitz

Tricia Sizemore

From: Doug Ritchey [dritchey3@cfl.rr.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:47 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

RE: PETS IN FACILITIES

I would like to see pets allowed, but only with a non- refundable fee. I have seen fees from $10 a night to $25. Good way to raise money too.

Thanks for allowing input.

Doug Ritchey

Tricia Sizemore

From: Audrey Reichard [awolfarth2@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Dear Ms. Sizemore,

I am writing to you in regards to the possible legislation that would allow pets to be kept overnight in state park cabins. I think this is a wonderful idea. My husband and I are new residents of WV and would like to see many of the state parks. However, it becomes costly to board our dog every time we want to go away for a weekend. We would be willing to pay a small extra fee at a lodge in order to be able to take him with us. Like many people who travel with their pets, we are responsible pet owners and could assure you that he would cause no damage. I am very excited about this potential legislation as it would provide us with much incentive to travel around WV.

Sincerely,
Audrey Wolfarth

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Tricia Sizemore

From: RebeccaFalin@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 5:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am very much in favor of allowing dogs or cats to stay overnight in state park cabins. My parents and I love to spend time in WV parks, hiking and enjoying the outdoors. We participate in both the VIPP and Hiking programs. In the summer we camp, but have often remarked that it would be nice to get a cabin in cooler weather. Unfortunately my father will go nowhere without his dog, who's housebroken and well behaved (lazy!). I think we would probably spend a couple more weekends a year in WV if dad could bring his dog to a cabin.

Sincerely,
Becky Falin

Tricia Sizemore

From: Romine,John [John.Romine@amestruetemper.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 4:22 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think it would be a great idea. But there should be a deposit in case of any damage. AND..... The guests should be held responsible for cleaning up after their dog, and include that in the deposit !!

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Jan Bowen [jbowen@boss.state.wv.us]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 3:54 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I know that in the past, pets were allowed in state park cabins; we had many happy times bringing our dog with us on state park vacations. I would certainly favor a rule change which would again allow pets in the cabins. We visit our state parks with overnight stays at least once a year, and it would make our stays easier and more enjoyable if we could bring our dog with us. Thanks for considering this rule change.

Jan Bowen
304 766-1030
jsbowen1@yahoo.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: WZAC-FM Wayne Price [wzac@kvinet.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 3:45 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of allowing pets in the state cabins, they are allowed in the camping and rv sites. We use to stay in one of the state cabins every year until we got to small fox terriers. Since then we stay in cabins that allow pets,because we do not leave out pets home. They are house broken and we do not leave them in the cabin when we go out. WE take them with us. Also my husband is handicapped, so take are just our kids.

Thank You
Kaye Watson
30 Beech Lane
Madison,WV 25130
e-mail: kc8gvi@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: WZAC-FM Wayne Price [wzac@kvinet.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:55 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and I use to stay in one of yous cabins every year on vacation until we got two small fox terriers. Since then we have been staying in cabins that allow pets, because we never leave them at home when we go on vacation. When we take them with us they are never left alone in the cabin, we take them with us when go out sightseeing. I think it's ashame that we help pay on the State Parks and Cabins, but we are not allowed to have pet in the cabins, but most parks allows them in the campsites and in the campers area. Please consider allowing people with pets to stay in the cabins.

Thank You

Kaye Watson
30 Beech Lane
Madison, WV 25130
e-mail: kc8gvi@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debbie Fast [dfast@hsc.wvu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets -- Pro

I think allowing people to have their pets in cabins is a very good idea. I would be much more inclined to stay in a state park if I could bring my dog.

Sincerely,

Debbie Fast
516 Madison Ave
Morgantown, WV 26501

Tricia Sizemore

From: Britz27351@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:54 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Thank you for allowing comments on this.

As a pet owner, I would say yes to allowing pets into cabins if they are well behaved and if the owner made sure to take care of any leavings by the pet. We take our little dog with us all the time and we carry bags to clean up after her. She does not get on furniture. If everyone cleaned up after their pets then I have no problem allowing pets in cabins.

But, should the privilege be abused, then discontinue it immediately. When a person registers for a cabin who has a pet, an extra charge could be added on which could be returnable at the end of their stay should there be no noticeable problem. We do pay extra when we stay at a hotel with our dog.

Sincerely,
Tom & Betty Ritz

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rick Douthitt [rickwd@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

An excellent idea! A refundable cleaning deposit (or non-refundable fee) could be assessed. This change would bring more guests to WV parks, as many people travel with their dogs and/or cats these days. My sisters and their families are forced to vacation in Virginia state parks, in order to bring their dogs. The possible legislation would allow them to return to WV parks, where they enjoyed many visits in the 1970's and 80's.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jen Pettigrew [jpettigrew@selfstorage.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments About Pets

To whom it may concern,

I received a card from WV Dept of Natural Resources requesting comments regarding allowing overnight guests to keep pets in park cabins. I think it is a great idea to allow pets in the cabins. I used to stay in the WV State Parks every year for vacation. But since I got my dog I refuse to stay at any of the WV Parks due to the pet restrictions. I go to the Virginia State Parks instead, as they allow pets.

I hope a change is considered so that I can come back to WV.

Thanks!

Jennifer Pettigrew
Director of Finance/HR

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cookie Kosak [cwk@bnrplc.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:30 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am very much for you allowing pets dogs/cats in the cabins and lodges. That is actually why I don't get to visit many state parks. There are a few in Virginia that let you for a small fee per pet, per night. I am more for a deposit that can be refunded at the end of your stay if everything is in order like you found it. I think that is the fair way. I feel like when there is a non-refundable fee you are paying for someone elses animal who misbehaves or causes damage. Thanks for your consideration.

Donna "Cookie" Kosak

Office Administrator

Black, Noland & Read, P. L. C.

540-885-0888

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dave Nichols [dnichols@dot.state.wv.us]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:25 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think it would be a great thing if pets were allowed to be with there family on visits to state parks etc. As everyone knows dogs and cats are family. BUT!!! It should be the responsibility of the owners to clean up and take care of there pets. Also if a pet should destroy anything, the owners should be held responsible for damages. Thanks For Your Time and Concern.

Tricia Sizemore

From: hackkcah [hach@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: hackkcah
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My name is Tammi and My family frequents state parks. I have a son with asthma and could not stay in a room where a pet has been. I feel that if you have a few designated rooms allowed for pets that this would be okay, but not every room.This would stop people like myself eith health relate issues from seeking the parks to stay. Thank you.

Tammi

Tricia Sizemore

From: Loretta Williams [LWilliams@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 12:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think it would be a wonderful idea to have at least some rooms/cabins that would be open to pets. I realize some people have very rude pets that could cause a lot of damage, but if the room/cabin was inspected (with the customers present) both before and after their stay, any damage could be noted and they could be held accountable. Of course, that would be something that would have to be made **very clear** to them before they rented the room/cabin. Also, if their pet caused a noise problem, I am sure that could also be addressed.

I do realize that some people are allergic to most types of pets, but I truly do not see why some rooms/cabins could be made "Pet Available Rooms" just like most hotels/motels now have smoking and non-smoking rooms.

There are so many of us who feel as if our pets are part of our family. It would be wonderful to have them vacation with us just like our other family members. I do realize that this can be a sensitive issue and that it will probably be impossible to please everyone. I am sure that with a little give and take it is an issue that can be worked out to the benefit of all.

Loretta Williams

Tricia Sizemore

From: syndi allgood [asyndi@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 12:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NLes and cabins - NL

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a single grandmother who enjoys the outdoors and traveling, usually with my four-legged friend. It would be nice to be able to stay in a cabin, instead of car camping.

Cynthia Allgood
Euclid, Ohio

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rita Damous Kee [rkee@tourism.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:32 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I'd love to bring my pet, but only in lodge rooms with outside entrance to room.

No pets in communal areas such as lobbies, restaurants, etc.

Leash law at all times anywhere in the park.

Damage deposit on room if an animal stays in room.

Some people are deathly allergic to animals, so a cabin or lodge room should be designated "pet room/cabin" similar to "non-smoking rooms"

Yes to designated cabins only. Offer an outside caged area outside cabin for animals as protection from other visitors/hikers in the area.

Alternative: New business for someone. Offer a kennel service in the area for people to keep their dogs in while visiting a park.

Rita Damous Kee
Advertising Project Manager
WV Division of Tourism
90 MacCorkle Ave. SW
South Charleston, WV 25303
304-558-2200 or 304-558-2288 ext. 327
Fax: 304-558-0108
rkee@wvtourism.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: McLane, Laura - Morgantown, WV [laura.mclane@wv.usda.gov]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:32 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Yes, I think you should allow pets (cats or dogs) to stay in cabins. Many people have pets and cannot afford to kennel them for a week or two while on vacation. It is understandable that if they caused damage, you would have to charge for that--maybe by charging a deposit up-front at the time of rental. If the lodge facilities have different entrances I think it would be allowable in the lodge, too. However, if the lodge rooms do not have separate entries, I wouldn't want them allowed in the lodge. Not everyone can deal with others' pets and some people have allergies.

Laura McLane
MO-1[illegible]retary
NRCS,
Email: Laura

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tolley, Brandi [btolley@TrianaEnergy.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I think this is a great idea. I love to take my 11 month old Jack Russell Terrier everywhere with me. Althought I do believe that there should only be certain cabins and rooms for pets. As long as there is a leash rule I think it would be wonderful.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Pgale853@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:16 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Many older people whoes children have left the nest or are finding themselves alone need their companions with them. We will not patornize parks, RV camp site that will not allow our 2 greyhounds. We're responsible to clean after them when we walk them. Please reconsider I understand they're are owner out there that don't show responsible ownership of their pets but don't punish everyone.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sandy Holley [SHolley@kmpnet.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:05 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I also would like to see pets allowed in cabins at state parks. Lodges are another issue, since not all people teach their pets "manners" and they can be disruptive to other guests. As a pet owner, I know that not all people pick up after their pets and that creates a negative image, but I think most people who travel with their pets are considerate of others and clean up after them.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barber, Tamsen [TLBarber@BBandT.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at wv state parks

I am in favor of letting pets stay in cabins or lodges.

The main reason we don't stay in cabins or lodges is because we can not bring our pets.

Tammy Barber

Tricia Sizemore

From: Philip Carper [python_shaman@hotmail.com]
ent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:10 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

To Whom it May Concern:

I am whole-heartedly in favor of this possible rule change. There have been many times that I have had to cancel vacation plans to stay at a WV state park because I could not find anyone to look after my two cats. I really hate to have them boarded and I prefer to simply take them with me. They love to travel as much as I do and it really is a joy to have them with me when I'm on vacation. I know that there are many other animal lovers out there, like myself, who feel the same way. I believe that this change in policy can only help to increase cabin and lodge rentals, thereby increasing revenue for the WV State Parks system.

Brightest Blessings,

Philip Carper
Paden City, WV

"Hail, Bast, Lady of Cats.
Hail, Goddess of earthly delights.
Teach me to rejoice in the being that I am.
Teach me to love and be happy."

Tricia Sizemore

From: D.W. Bostic [cliteastweed@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets in cabins

To whom it may concern: My name is D.W Bostic, 202 Henry St. Ravenswood, WV 26164. My family spends one week a year at Watoga State Park in a cabin, and we do day visits to many other state parks. We are very interested in the parks and their future. PETS ARE FAMILY TO MOST PEOPLE THAT HAVE THEM!!!! We always have a "downer" when we get ready for our Watoga trip because we have to board our dog. We HATE to not be able to bring Sam with us. As an attorney, I know that releases holding the park and the State harmless for damages or injuries to people and property caused by our pets would be required. I have no problem with that. I also know that allowing pets would require their owners to sign agreements of responsibility for damages to park property caused by their pets. I have no problem with that requirement either. I doubt any reasonable and responsible pet owner would balk at those requirements. Thank you for the opportunity to present this comment. D.W. Bostic

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Bill Church [Bill.Church@glenville.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, I think that pets should be allowed in cabins at WV State Parks as long as folks know that they are responsible for any damage that their pets may incur.

Thanks
Bill Church

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: public comment about pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Trackmom89@aol.com [mailto:Trackmom89@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 9:52 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: public comment about pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am responding to the postcard about allowing pets in State Park Cabins. I would totally be for allowing pets to stay in the cabins. We have pets and in order to go on vacation we have to find someone to dog sit for us. Sometimes it is very diffecult to find someone to do this and the kennels are overcrowded during the vacation season.

I think if you wrote up some kind of contract for the pet owner that would hold the pet owner for any damaged that may be caused by their pet that would be great. It would state that the pet owner could be billed for any damages caused by their pet. We would consider vacationing in the cabins if we could take our pet along.

Thank-you for sending us the postcard and have a good summer.

the Harpold Family
trackmom89@aol.com
125 Nicholas St
Clarksburg, WV 26301

Tricia Sizemore

From: Christine Metheney [christinem@mail.drs.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 8:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comments about pets

Please be advised that we are 100% for pets in cabins and lodge rooms. We have a pet dog that is very well behaved and trained. However, we are unable to go to the parks for vacation, mainly because we do not wish to leave the dog (Pomeranian mix) at home for a week or in a kennel.

There are many responsible families and aging baby boomers that have pets and need a pet friendly vacation destination. We have stayed at several parks in the past but since becoming "dog parents" we are no longer able to do so.

Christine Metheney M.S., C.R.C.
WVDRS Branch Office Mgr.
812 Northside Drive, Ste. 7A
Summersville, WV 26651
Tel: (304) 872.0813
Fax: (304) 872.0814

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sheila Riddle [rivets20002002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 9:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets Overnight in Cabins/Lodge

I urge anyone and everyone involved with the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and lodge rooms.

To many of us, our pets are our children. I am not physically able to have children myself thus my dogs are my children. Others, such as the elderly, find great happiness and comfort in their dog/cat companions. Of course, there are others who would like to bring their family pet along to the cabin or lodge room with the family.

In addition, West Virginia should be known as the friendly state and this would help promote state tourism.

Many thanks for consideration of my request.

Sheila R. Riddle, M.A.
PO Box 312, Mount Gay, WV 25637
304.752.8521

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Tricia Sizemore

From: sunshinegorf@charter.net
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 8:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Mr. Pope,

For 10 years we took our pug with us as we celebrated our anniversary renting a North Bend State Park cabin. It was a great disappointment when we had to go elsewhere.

We very much support allowing pets again in the state park cabins. We would love to resume our tradition with our current pug.

Thank you for reconsidering this legislation.

Jane Martin

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wvfan52@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 7:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I believe that pets should be allowed in West Virginia State Park cabins and lodges. It is a big disappointment to have to board your pets because you cannot take them on vacation with you. After all they are part of your family, and for people of my age they are our children, since our children are grown and living their own lives.

Thank you,

Donald A. Edwards
[illegible] Hurricane Rd.
[illegible]71

Tricia Sizemore

From: charter.net [woodshop@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 7:25 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

why of course...reason being is that many people that travel now on vacation or what ever take their pets along as any member of the family. the majority of motels along the roads now advertise that they will take your pets. this has gotten to be a favorite among traveling community.
we first found this to be true in gatlinburg n.c and we were thrilled....the room was nice, clean, with no animal smell, no fleas, or hair.
this would be a wonderful thing to do !

thank you,
animal lovers of wv

Tricia Sizemore

From: M0untainWindS0ng@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 7:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: re pets in cabins

I have been visiting the state parks for over fifty years. My family went all during my childhood. Now a lot of my siblings (there are 11) go out of state to state parks that allow pets. They love WV Parks especially Greenbrier State Forest. My suggestion is that sence some people are allergic to pet dander allocate certian cabins to be pet friendly and have some no pet cabins. Also a leash rule when outside and a signed commitment to pay for any damage. I think the cabins would be rented a lot more if they become pet friendly. By the way it is Raleigh and Ruth King (not Ruby) Have a good day

Tricia Sizemore

From: YlHill66@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 4:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comments about Pets"

I think there should be "pet friendly" rooms and/or cabins available for those wishing to bring pets. However, there should also be rooms and cabins where pets are not allowed because there are many people who are allergic to pet dander, those with asthma, etc.
Yvonne Hill
Alum Creek, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: gerwazy [gerwazy@optonline.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 2:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a dog owner, I think it is a great idea to allow dogs/cats in your cabins!
Thanks,
Jacek Iwinski

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dee Ann Huss [dhuss@hbiamerica.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 2:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Absolutely! How can you keep your dog in the car or tied to a tree?

Dee Ann Huss
Healthy Buildings International, Inc. (HBI)
9401 Mathy Drive, Suite 100
Fairfax, VA 22031-5311
(703) 323-5174 x106, Fax: (703) 323-4440

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kathrin Marti [kathrinmarti@mailblocks.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 12:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

I think that you should designate 10% of the cabins or rooms as pet friendly, and have those people pay a higher outlay and deposit.
Fleas are a very real issue, so bug bombing must happen on a regular basis.

In order to stay competitive in this market you need to offer more than your competitors. It might be useful to find out what Virginia and other states do.
Thanks
Kathrin Marti

Tricia Sizemore

From: David Thorne [mountaintrout@citynet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 9:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My girlfriend and I are proud "parents" of two Rhodesian Ridgeback hounds and enjoy travelling with them wherever we go. Unfortunately, some less responsible pet "owners" make it difficult to take our family into public places because they are undereducated on the care necessary for taking an animal in public (Some folks have similar disabilities with human children, too, but there are many fewer restrictions on taking them in public facilities, but that is another rant...). Our dogs have been well-trained in accredited obedience programs and properly socialized to be around other animals as well as all people, but continue to be discriminated against. We continue to work hard to enlighten people everywhere we go with the dogs on appropriate behavior and manners for dogs. Our dogs are welcome back wherever we go, demonstrating their enduring qualities as "man's best friend". I hope we can visit our wonderful state parks in the future and be able to take the entire family to stay in one of the great cabins or lodges without any restrictions against pets.

In closing, I support relaxing restrictions to allow responsible pets to stay in West Virginia State Parks and their facilities.

Thank you for accepting our comments.
Sincerely,

lildy and Ndugu, the Big Red Dogs, see us online at: http://www.as.wvu.edu/kbjorgo/personal/WEB_PAGE/traildog/ndugu.htm and Kim and David

David Thorne
P.O. Box 4113
Morgantown, WV 26504
mountaintrout@citynet.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: mike [gse01982@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 8:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My wife and I are all for this proposal to allow pets to stay at state parks. We don't go anywhere without our dog.
Thank You
Michael E Spencer

Tricia Sizemore

From: Paulyn Gilbert [iamgods1969@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 7:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe that allowing pets in the cabins in WV State Parks would be favorable as long as there are strict rules enforced to preserve the wildlife and the cleanliness of the cabins. I believe there should be large fines attached to violation by the occupants or their guests. I believe if responsible pet owners have their animals with them there will not be a problem. If, however, there are irresponsible occupants they should be dealt with severely and they should be responsible for their guests and any animals they would be allowed to bring.

Paulyn Gilbert

Paulyn

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Tricia Sizemore

From: REBECCA FERGUSON [honeybee67@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 2:47 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would love for my dog to be allowed to visit with me overnight in a WV State Park. We do not tend to rent cabins because of this rule and would love to begin doing so if our pet were allowed with us.

Thank-you for considering this issue,
Rebecca Ferguson - WV resident

Tricia Sizemore

From: Monica J. Bays [mbays@dbdlaw1.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 11:09 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am for pets being allowed in state park cabins as long as they are well behaved trained house pets and kept on a leash. I presently do not stay at the state parks because I can't bring my small house dog with me. If allowed to bring my pet, I would probably visit the state parks more often.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lampshadehattie@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 2:17 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore: I certainly do believe that dogs and cats should be alowed in the cabins at all the parks. Most people believe that the anamils are a part of their family. We had a wonderful dog who lived to be fifteen years old. We would have prefered to vacation in W.V. but went to Myrtle Beach instead. The motel oceanfront manager said the dogs never did any harm when compared to some of the people he ha d rented to over the years. Our dogs were just as clean and well mannered as we. Many years ago we did go to our state parks for vacation, and we most certainly did take our dog at that time with us. They knew that we had her and welcomed her. I do believe they should be leashed when away from their cabin and yard. Perhaps there should be a weight limit on the dogs. This would keep most of the biting breeds out. Most motels have such a rule. No, they should not be allowed in the lodge, because there are too many people milling around. There should be a large deposit charged for the dog, to be given back at departure time. Of course all dogs should have been given their shots, and proof shown at time of arrival. They should not be allowed around large groups of children. We do not have a dog at this time, but it important to people who have one to be able to keep their's with them. Thank you so very much

Yvonne Jones Bittle _____Charleston,W.V.25302 Also no fleas, no lice. no mange, no dogs in heat and no dogs who chases cats!!! What an order !!!!!!! Hee Hee!

Tricia Sizemore

From: LINDSAY CRITES [siren1666@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 11:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think you should allow pets. When people go on vacation and they have a pet. They may not have someone who can let the dog out. And being that a dog is mans best friend who else would man want to take with him. NO seriously people love their pets dont like leaving their pets at home all alone. Some people even love their pets like children and would you leave your child at home all alone.
I also believe all hotels should allow pets because they do loose alot of business that way, I work at a hotel and we dont allow pets it's just sad. At least if state parks do people will have somewhere to go with their pets. If they damage the place put up a sign in the room stating
(THERE IS A $50 FEE FOR DAMAGE BY YOUR PET.) Charge it to their credit card or whatever. Im just saying even (make them sign a contract about damages if the dog makes any) that they will pay for them.

thanks Lindsay Crites

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Mrs. DeGroot [fedgroot051@verizon.net]

Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 11:16 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We would love to be able to take our pet dog on vacation with us to a state park and stay at the bungalows or cabins. We stayed at Capacon state park last year just for a few nights and loved it. At that point we did not have a dog, so it wasn't difficult now that we've adopted one it is a real problem for us to go on vacation. We got the dog for our son and he doesn't want to go anywhere without her and the few times we went away this winter were logistical nightmares. We would just go camping with her but that is impossible now that my husband cannot medically handle that any longer. It would solve what we are doing for vacation this summer.

Obviously, there must be strict rules about taking a pet into the cabin. We were very impressed with the cleanliness of the cabins and certainly wouldn't want that standard diminished from untrained pets. The pets should also be licensed and update with their shots. This family votes for pets in the cabins. Thanks for asking and keep up the good work. Your state parks are wonderful jewels.

Tricia Sizemore

From: BIZNUSS@aol.com

Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:35 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

John R. Pope, Chief

I am a resident of West Virginia. Five years ago I became a pet owner. Since that time I have stayed over dozens of weeks and several four day weekends in Virginia State Parks cabins/cottages. I have stayed at Westmoreland, Hungry Mother, Claytor Lake, Fairy Stone, Blue Ridge Parkway, Smith Mountain and others that I just can't remember right now.
When lodging at these cabins I have never witnessed any pet damage to the interior or the furnishings of these accommodations. It is difficult to get reservations, as they are almost always booked. It appears that allowing pets has in no way hurt business. How is it they are able to successfully rent these cabins to pet owners and we cannot? I would much rather have my monies go towards supporting West Virginia State Parks. It costs me more to visit the Virginia State Parks just because of the driving distance, yet my family and I make the trip. There is also the money that the local economy does not receive, and instead goes to a Virginia town/city.

I have stayed at many Parks in the US from Ocracoke to the Grand Canyon and up to Glacier, just to name a few. However, some of the most beautiful scenery and unspoiled places are right here in my state of West Virginia. I wish I, my family and friends, with our pets, could spend our vacations here.

Please consider, if only on a trial basis, allowing pets at West Virginia's State Park Cabins. I think you will see an increase in revenue and the local economy will benefit as well.
Regards,
Kathy Moore
Work Process Coach
Bayercropscience Institute, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: G. FARLEY [gdfarley@prodigy.net]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parkst WV State Parks

As a working taxpayer and responsible pet owner, I fully support allowing pets in cabins at WV State parks. When pets were allowed in state parks many years ago, our family and out of state relatives rented cabins and brought our family pets with us several times a year. Since pets have been prohibited, we have not used the state cabins and our visits to any state parks has diminished greatly. We have regularly patronized the Outer Banks of NC where pets are welcomed in the nicest of rental homes. We support allowing pets in West Virginia state cabins and think that adding a reasonable pet fee would be acceptable.

Julie Lejeune
Dale Farley
833 Daverton Road
Charleston, WV 25303

Tricia Sizemore

From: SEAPINCH@aol.com

Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 6:31 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think that would be wonderful. Many people travel with their pets and have limited access to state parks. The only place you can bring your pet is in the campground.

Please allow pets in the cabins and lodges and and give everyone equal opportunity to use these resources.

I also have another suggestion. Update your websites to includes park maps and campground maps. It is sometimes helpful when planning a trip to know the layout of the campground and parks.

Thank you

Sandy Armentrout
92 Mace Street
Elkview WV 25071
304-965-0271

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sherry Kuhl [skuhl@hsc.wvu.edu]
ent: Monday, June 13, 2005 12:08 PM
'o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would like to endorse a change that would allow pets to stay at WV State Parks. I have three dogs, who love to travel, and who can never go because most lodging does not allow pets. Of course, there must be restrictions and limitations, such as always being on a leash, etc.

Perhaps a small deposit which would be refundable after the stay would be helpful. Most people who travel with pets have well mannered pets; of course there are always exceptions. I think it should be an available option. There could even be special "pet trails" for pets to walk on - reducing the risk of the general public stepping on something. Pursue it, it's a great idea and has a lot of potential to increase the number of people who stay overnight.

Sherry

Sherry Kuhl, MSW, LSW
Program Specialist
WVU Center on Aging
PO Box 9127
Morgantown, WV 26506
skuhl@hsc.wvu.edu
phone: 304-293-1795
fax: 304-293-2700

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
ent: Monday, June 13, 2005 11:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at State Parks

Expires: Tuesday, June 13, 2006 12:00 AM

-----Original Message-----
From: Evans, Regina (RE) [mailto:evansre@dow.com]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 10:59 AM
To: 'Parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Pets at State Parks

I would definitely spend more time at the state park facilities if I could bring my Shih Tzu. She is very well behaved and would definitely not damage the cabins -- which is more than I can say for the adults and children who stay at the parks. The last time we stayed at Twin Falls we were very disappointed in the maintenance being performed on the cabins.

Regina Evans
Environmental Supply Chain
External Waste Specialist
3200-3300 Kanawha Turnpike
Building 2000-2124
South Charleston, WV 25303
* (304) 747-2676 * (304) 747-3680 * evansre@dow.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 10:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in the park

-----Original Message-----
From: seaspirit christie [mailto:seaspiritc@care2.com]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 10:18 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in the park

---

you need poop clean up rules not bans children need animals and so do the eldery

I understand that the Division of Natural Resources is taking public comment this month on whether to change its no-pets rule at state parks.

I haven't vacationed at ANY West Virginia parks since I first heard about that rule. My dog is a member of the family and is better behaved than a lot of children (and many adults) I have seen.

State parks have a reputation as great places for family vacations, but if you have to leave part of your "family" behind, then they aren't desirable destinations to me or other pet owners I know.

I didn't even know the no-pets rule was being reconsidered the last time until a decision was already made (I suspect not many other people knew it then either), but this time I saw a small notice in The Gazette and I vote for changing the rule to allow pets so that West Virginians with pets don't have to go out of state to enjoy the great outdoors and people traveling with their pets don't bypass West Virginia to go where they are welcomed.

HOPE ALL IS WELL WITH YOUR WORLD

http://spaces.msn.com/members/seaspiritscave/ my page

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Tricia Sizemore

From: megan saltzman [meganazulejo@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 5:29 AM
To: JULIAWV@aol.com
Subject: RE: Allowing Pets at WV State Parks

Hi Julia and greetings from Barcelona, you can send my opinion. It's nice to know you're expressing your opinion.
Take care,
megan

I agree with Julia Epperson-- pets should be allowed in state park.
Excluding pets from parks is the same as excluding a park's natural habitat.
Aren't parks supposed to be in harmony with nature?
Megan Saltzman, Michigan.

From: JULIAWV@aol.com
To: JULIAWV@aol.com
Subject: Allowing Pets at WV State Parks
Date: Sun, 12 Jun 2005 02:43:54 EDT

Hi, Everyone!

Below is a copy of an article in The Gazette
wherein it is reported that the Department of Natural Resources is asking
for public comment about
whether to change the No-Pet policy at West Virginia State Parks.

Below the article is the e-mail I sent to the following address:

parks@westvirginia.com

If you would like to register your opinion, you can e-mail your vote, too.
(Hmm...of course, if you don't agree with me, nevermind.)

:)
_____

_____

I understand that the Division of Natural Resources is taking public comment
this month on whether to change its no-pets rule at state parks.

I haven't vacationed at ANY West Virginia parks since I first heard about
that rule. My dog is a member of the family and is better behaved than a lot of
children (and many adults) I have seen.

State parks have a reputation as great places for family vacations, but if
you have to leave part of your "family" behind, then they aren't desirable
destinations to me or other pet owners I know.

I didn't even know the no-pets rule was being reconsidered the last time
until a decision was already made (I suspect not many other people knew it then
either), but this time I saw a small notice in The Gazette and I vote for
changing the rule to allow pets so that West Virginians with pets don't have to go
out of state to enjoy the great outdoors and people traveling with their pets
don't bypass West Virginia to go where they are welcomed.

Julia Epperson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Renee Taylor [mailto:taylorgr@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 3:42 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins

I think it would be great to be able to have pets in cabins. When we travel we take our small poodle with us along with his kennel cage - this is where he sleeps and where he stays if we can't take him with us on an outing.

We stay with friends in the cabins a few times a year - usually at Watoga - and it is an extra expense to board the dog or find a weekend pet sitter to stay in our home. It curtails our outings by not being able to take the pet.

I hope you change your policy.

Renee Taylor
1504 Bedford Rd.
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing Pets At Park Lodging

-----Original Message-----
From: JULIAWV@aol.com [mailto:JULIAWV@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 2:05 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Allowing Pets At Park Lodging

I understand that the Division of Natural Resources is taking public comment this month on whether to change its no-pets rule at state parks.

I haven't vacationed at ANY West Virginia parks since I first heard about that rule. My dog is a member of the family and is better behaved than a lot of children (and many adults) I have seen.

State parks have a reputation as great places for family vacations, but if you have to leave part of your "family" behind, then they aren't desirable destinations to me or other pet owners I know.

I didn't even know the no-pets rule was being reconsidered the last time until a decision was already made (I suspect not many other people knew it then either), but this time I saw a small notice in The Gazette and **I vote for changing the rule to allow pets** so that West Virginians with pets don't have to go out of state to enjoy the great outdoors and people traveling with their pets don't bypass West Virginia to go where they are welcomed.

Julia Epperson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in WV State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Randi Robinson [mailto:wvteddy@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 1:29 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in WV State Parks

Dear Mr. Pope,

I understand you at taking comments from the public on the DNR's no-pet policy at WV state parks. I totally and completely think the policy should be changed. When you go on vacation, do you want to leave your children home because the motel won't allow them? To a large majority of pet owners, their pets ARE their children. Pet-designated cabins make just as much sense as smoking cabins. Many people are allergic to cigarette smoke (or just hate the smell) just as many people are allergic to cats and dogs. To have a place to go, especially in our great outdoors, where you can take your four-legged babies with you would be wonderful! Of course, guidelines need to be established, such as cleaning up after your pets (which most responsible pet owners would do anyway) so as not to ruin our great scenery for non-pet lovers, but I believe there is a workable solution. I and many other pet lovers would be eternally grateful.

Sincerely,
Randi Robinson
890 Lively St
Saint Albans, WV 25177

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:16 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in the parks

-----Original Message-----
From: French 2 [mailto:WVFrench@charter.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 8:37 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in the parks

When we have stayed at State Parks, there has been little interaction with other people much less their dogs. Many people now regard their pets as part of the family and do not want to vacation without them.
And I think they would not let their dog run lose for fear it would be lost or even attacked by a wild animal.
Therefore, I think it is fine to take the dog to the state park.

Sincerely,
Carole French

Tricia Sizemore

From: Pat Differding [scooter1@netins.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 8:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please change your rules to allow dogs to stay in park cabins. You would broadent the number of folks who can use the facilities and make many of us very happy!
Thanks for being open to this change and for asking for public comment.
Yet another reason why I love WV!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Solveig Gruber [sgruber@hardynet.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 6:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello!
I have a wonderful boxer named Chloe who loves to travel with us. She is very well mannered and we would love to have her stay with us in a cabin or a lodge (I go to conferences and stay at a lodge). Chloe is as much a part of our family as our children are.We do hope you would consider having animals stay with the owners in the lodges and the cabins. Solveig Gruber

Hampshire

County Resident

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Robards [John@JohnRobards.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 6:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a dog owner who travels with his pet, I think pets should be allowed in WV State Park cabins and lodges under similar rules at reputable inns to protect property and not detract from the pleasure of other guests' visits.

John Robards, RPF, CF
WV Professional Forester #337
WV Real Estate Broker #4110
1109 Brunswick Court
Morgantown, WV 26508
www.JohnRobards.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kevin Chop [kevinchop@verizon.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 1:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in Cabins

What a great thing it would be to be allowed to bring your pet and stay in a cabin! We have a dog that we take camping with us all the time and always appreciate the state parks that allow us to bring her. We vote to allow pets in all campgrounds and cabins!

Thanks!

Kevin & Valerie Chop
Hanover Twp., PA

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marshpie@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 10:53 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it is a positive move to allow pets in cabins at WV State parks.

Marsh[illegible] Pierson
Wa[illegible]gton, DC

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan Barse [sbarse@adelphia.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 9:33 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As a lover of West Virginia State Parks and hiker, I want to urge you to consider changing the rule that would allow dogs in the state cabins, etc. There are many of us, especially women, who hike the trails in West Virginia with our dogs as companions and sometimes as protectors. I know I would utilize the cabins more frequently if I could have my dog with me.

Please consider changing this rule. It would be of enormous benefit to many of us.

Thank you.

Susan Barse
Keyser, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: keta johnson [keta.johnson@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 11, 2005 7:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Greetings, Mr. Pope:

I am hopeful that our family dog will be able to accompany us on future visits to the cabins in the WV State Parks.

People who actually want to bring their dogs on vacation with them have housetrained companion animals. These dogs are usually good guests, and are used to house manners.

People who leave their dogs chained in the backyard usually don't take their pets in their cars, much less in their houses, and probably would not be asking to bring their dogs into the cabins.

Many hotels accept pets, and the market is growing. Pets are a huge pastime in USA, and lots of money is spent on household pets.

I would love to book cabins, but to do so now, I have to kennel my dog, which is stressful for him, and adds additional costs to traveling.

Please consider the families with trained, clean, well mannered pets when you set these policies. These are the potential guests you will have.

6/13/2005

Thanks
Keta Johnson
Are you a good person? Take the test at www.livingwaters.com *(I flunked it!)*
See what I recommend on the web at:

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sherri [srbgreer@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 11, 2005 1:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think as long as the pets have current vaccinations, and the owners pay a security deposit for damages (or an extra fee), you should allow them to bring their pets. Nowadays, pets are a part of the family, too, and in some cases, become couple's children when there are no human ones!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Krystal Satterfield [Krystalgirl@ma.rr.com]

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 2:43 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Sir,
I feel that it would be a wonderful addition to our summer vacation if we could bring our family pet.
You would need to charge an additional fee and request vaccination records. I fee that a family that is interested in having the family dog along on a trip would be happy to provide these things.
Good luck! I hope this ends up in favor of our dog Lady.

Krystal Satterfield
507 View Avenue
Fairmont, WV 26554

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary Battin [gbattin@access.k12.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 10:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I strongly encourage that pets be allowed. The vast majority of pet owners would make sure there would be no problems with their pets.

Many hotels are now allowing pets.

Pets are such a part of the family and should be included with the family at the state parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mullins, Joan [joanmullins@mail.courtswv.org]
ent: Friday, June 10, 2005 8:45 AM
fo: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I feel that pets should be allowed in the cabins at the state parks. So many people have a pet. I know when we travel, we always look for places that allows our dog to stay. You see so many people (especially older people) that have their companions with them. We have so many beautiful parks in West Virginia, and I think that would be a plus to more people visiting them if they could bring their pet.

Thank you.

Joan Mullins
Administrative Assistant
Family Court Services
WV Supreme Court of Appeals
Building 1, Room E-100
(304) 558-0145 Phone
(304) 558-5881 FAX
joanmullins@courtswv.org

Tricia Sizemore

From: MTERRY959@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 5:54 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

we vote yes...it has kept my family from enjoying the state park facilities

Tricia Sizemore

From: Leeora505@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 9:12 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and are both retired, and would love to visit some of the parks here in West Virginia, since we have lived here all of our lives.

It would be great if we could bring our " BABIES" along for the weekend, or a week even. We currently have two dogs. one is twelve and the other one is ten. I am sure they would not cause a problem, as we have taken them to the beach with no trouble.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Wilda L. Wheeler

Tricia Sizemore

From: Courtney Jensen [cajensen2@wisc.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 6:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I very much think that pets should be allowed. My dog is truly part of my family. I would be much less likely to visit your park if I could not take my dog with me. I find that pets are often much less disruptive to others in such situations as are young children, not to mention sometimes adults.

Courtney Jensen
Winston-Salem, NC

Tricia Sizemore

From: Joshua Rutkowski [moturdoni@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 5:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Although we are not pet owners, my wife and I strongly endorse any actions that would allow pets in the cabins of West Va.

We feel that the outdoor experience may be exponentially enhanced if people can bring their pets with them when staying at cabins.

Thank you for the possibility of public input,

Joshua and Carmen Rutkowski
236 S High St
Morgantown, WV 26501

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nancy Ault [nault@gynassociates.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 4:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I hope you do decide to allow pets in state park cabins. Any pet lover will tell you that their pet is a member of the family and it is hard to leave them at home or at the boarding kennel when we leave to go on vaction. Most pet owners are responsible and will clean up after their pets. I, for one, would be willing to pay a little extra to enjoy having my "whole" family with me when on vacation in a state park.

Nancy Ault

Tricia Sizemore

From: Janscwv@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 2:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think that pets should be allowed in State Park cabins and lodges.
Janet Schoen
503 Falcon Dr.
Charleston, WV 25312

Sissie Summers

From: wvstateparks@dnr.state.wv.us
ent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 4:49 PM
ſo: Sissie Summers
Subject: West Virginia State Parks Vacation Getaway

Mail From: terribay@hotmail.com
Terri
Mehling
66 Dianne Court
Charles Town
WV
25414-5877

google search
Please add my email address to the newsletter
Yes - I have visited a state park or forest in 2004
Cacapon
Please allow pets in cabins at the parks!

[This e-mail was scanned for viruses by F-Prot/Declude Antivirus]

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jones, William [william.jones@titan.com]
ent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 2:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

as long as the owners are responsible and pets are maintained there is no reason they shouldn't be allowed

William R.Jones (Ron)
Assistant Logistics Officer
Center for National Response/ Titan Systems
HC 64 Box 39
Gallagher, W.V. 25083
voice: 304-595-5677
fax: 304-595-4723
website: centerfornationalresponse.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Corgicat@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 2:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

How interesting that I noticed the scroll line while visiting this site. I was trying to see whether there were any of the parks that allowed pets in either the cabins or the lodges. I was very disappointed to see that they are not. However, I will definitely plan a visit once they are allowed!

Bonnie Schick

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rita Richard [rrichard@tax.state.wv.us]
ent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 12:26 PM
ſo: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Sir,

I think allowing pets in cabins at WV State Parks is a winner. I have a German Shepherd dog that I love to bring with me on vacation. So please don't allow just small dogs.

Thanks
Rita E Richard
RR 1 Box 14C
Rosedale WV 26636
rrichard@rtol.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robin Greathouse [RGreathouse@WVEDA.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 12:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would support allowing pets in a limited number of cabins. In the lodges, likewise, only if a particular park has a wing or somewhat isolated area where barking etc would not disturb other guests.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 11:47 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Charlotte A. Hoffman [mailto:CAH@farrell3.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 11:39 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Parks

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that you are seeking comments regarding whether pets should be allowed in the cabins located in West Virginia State Parks. I am in favor of allowing pets in the cabins.

I am the proud owner of a sweet tempered dog, who is housebroken, not destructive and religiously kept on a leash when out in public areas.
It is one of my hopes to be able to take her along with me on trips, as she travels well. Unfortunately, there are very few "pet friendly" places in West Virginia where I can take her. Similarly, I have friends from Georgia with whom I plan vacation get aways (fly-fishing, primarily). They, too, have well-behaved pups. Because they want to travel with their dogs and the pet-friendly options here are few, we look to adjoining states for our fishing excursions.

I understand that not everyone likes to be around dogs and not every dog owner has a well-behaved pet. Rules and regulations would be needed to protect the parks and the lodging areas from damage caused by these animals.
lowever, I ask the Dept of Natural Resources to reconsider the out-and-out prohibition on pets in State Park cabins.

Thank you,

Charlotte Hoffman

Tricia Sizemore

From: donna kuznik [mustang93@adelphia.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 11:02 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think pets should be allowed to stay in the cabins and some rooms. Have certain places set aside for anyone with pets. Just like smoking rooms and non smoking rooms. Pets are a part of people's family and they should be able to go along. Thanks, Donna

Tricia Sizemore

From: Michele Wright [MWright@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 10:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I suggest setting up certain rooms or cabins for pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 9:11 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in WV State Parks Cabins and Lodges

-----Original Message-----
From: BethRut@aol.com [mailto:BethRut@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 9:19 PM
To: Parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in WV State Parks Cabins and Lodges

To: John H. Pope, Chief of DNR Parks and Recreation

I am writing in support of a change of policy re allowing pets in state park cabins and lodges. Many years ago I enjoyed taking my pets to cabins, and I was unhappy when the policy was changed to disallow pets in cabins. I support a change to allow pets to accompany their families to state park cabins/lodges. Other states allow pets in cabins, which means we West Virginians have to go out of state to enjoy vacations with our pets. This is a beautiful state with wonderful parks, and I would rather stay here and support our own park system. Even if a refundable deposit were charged, I think you would find people would support allowing pets in cabins; you could even designate certain cabins for pets and their owners. I would much prefer staying in a pet cabin than one in which former residents were allowed to smoke. I hope you receive a favorable response from other pet owners and give serious consideration to taking the policy back to allowing pets in cabins/lodges.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue!

Beth Rutledge
1222 Highland Rd.
Charleston, WV 25302

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 9:09 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Costello, Carol A. [mailto:ccostel@alleghenypower.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 8:48 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Parks

I believe that it would be a very good idea to allow pets in park cabins and in some lodge rooms. I know that I would like to be able to take my pet with me when I visit the beautiful parks in our state. I would even be willing to provide a security deposit or pay a little more since I would have to pay for kenneling my pet if I couldn't bring her along. Because of the cost of kenneling, I usually choose vacation locations that are pet friendly over those that are not.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue.

Carol Costello

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ron Roberts [rwrcowboy@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 11:26 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I like the idea to allow cats or dogs at the cabins only. Cabins are more suited to accomodate these pets. Pets should be required to have their shots and dogs outside the cabins should be on a lease. People wanting to bring cats or dogs should have to sign a release saying they will be responsible for any damage incurred by their pets. There are many owners of cats and dogs (me included) who would enjoy bringing their pet to a park on vacation. But we want to keep the cabins as clean and nice as ever. I should mention that the cat I have was one we adopted from Greenbrier State Forest. It was living in a woodshed outside our cabin and a lady who works at the park wanted someone to take it because she was afraid it would be put to sleep.

Let me know how this issue is resolved.

Sincerely,
Ron Roberts
e-mail: rwrcowboy@hotmail.com
Phone:(304)586-2723

Tricia Sizemore

From: christine mcmullen [christinemcmullen@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 8:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am 100% in favor of allowing pets in the cabins of WV state parks. As frequent quests of your state we have found limited places that will except our pets. There have been times we've had to cancel anticipated family vacations to accommodate our pets ,which are part of our family. We have never and will never kennel them so we can go away. If they can't come we won't go.

As an alternative you could offer pet-free cabins for those with allergies or restrict more aggressive breeds. It would be wonderful to see more pet friendly places!

Thank You for listening,
The McMullen family
North Attleboro MA

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marilyn Pence [elliemay73@1st.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 6:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and i would love to be able to take one of our pets with us when we visit W.V. state parks. We have been to Hawks Nest Lodge and North Bend in the past year and would be inclined to visit more if we didn't have to leave our beloved furry friend behind. I hope that this will be changed so that we can visit more often.

Thanks,
Marilyn Pence
Ohio

Tricia Sizemore

From: wvtony [wvtony@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 7:04 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Sir,
A favorite past time of mine is camping and seeing this great state that I live in; but because of not being allowed to stay in the cabins with my pets, I refuse to travel to any of the state parks.

I have found many wonderful hotels and other areas across West Virginia that allow pets and do avail myself of their services whenever possible. As a matter of fact I have spent the last four weekends and several week days at a private campground, that allows pets. While their I spoke with several people about this issue and we all agree. Until West Virginia allows pets in the lodges we will not stay at any West Virginia Camp Ground.

Sincerely

Tony Hyre

Tricia Sizemore

From: Terri Mehling [terribay@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 4:53 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello!

Thank you for reconsidering allowing pets in WV State Park cabins! My husband and I love our parks and used to frequent them often. Now we have a wonderful, well mannered dog and no longer stay at WV parks. She goes everywhere with us! We have found private rental cabins near WV recreation areas that allow pets and we are more than willing to pay a pet deposit fee (usually $35 per visit or $10 per night) in order for us to bring our dog along. I feel that a fee would be acceptable and those patrons who wish not to pay the fee would simply not bring their pets. Many cabins in WV parks are rustic with minimal furniture/amenities and allowing pets that are well behaved would be wonderful. To be honest, some humans make more of a mess than most animals! It has been many years since we visited Lost River and Kumbrabow Parks. These are our favorite two spots! We would greatly appreciate it if the DNR would lift the ban on pets so we may enjoy our parks once again! Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments!

Terri Mehling
Jefferson County Chapter **American Red Cross**
Chair, Disaster Services Committee
66 Dianne Court
Charles Town, WV 25414
(304) 728-6688 Home
terribay@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Roberta Stone [bertie10@charter.net]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 4:31 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Sir, I think it would be wonderful if pets were allowed in the cabins and or lodges of the West Virginia State Parks. My Wife and I have tent camped in West Virginia State Parks for a number of years. I now have arthritis and it is hard for me to tent camp. We have a pet and it always travels with us. It would be great if we could rent a cabin in one of our beautiful state parks. Thank You for your consideration in this matter. Sincerely, Brian & Roberta Stone

Tricia Sizemore

From: Beverly Dolin [BDolin@WVEDA.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 3:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Allowing pets back into the cabins and/or lodge rooms would be absolutely wonderful!!!! My vote is a resounding YES for allowing pets in the cabins!!!!!

My husband and I have visited several of our beautiful state parks through the years but have scaled back our visits in the last five years due to the "No Pets" rule. We have a medium sized dog that we treat almost as if she were a child and we don't like leaving her at home or in a kennel. We have taken her to a couple of state parks to ride through and walk around and we have all enjoyed it. Being able to bring our pet would give us peace of mind as well as make the trips more enjoyable and allow us to travel more often.

I also feel that most pet owners are responsible people and would follow the rules regarding pets. Park officials/staff should be able to enforce the rules without question.

I could certainly understand your hesitation in allowing pets in the lodge rooms - I can think of several potential negatives:

Barking/Whining which would disturb other guests in lodge rooms Odors in carpets (the cabins don't have carpets as I recall) Scaring/possibility of nipping/biting housekeeping staff Possibility of escaping from room when door is opened and alarming other guests in the corridors

I very much look forward to your decision. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to voice an opinion.

P.S. I think allowing cats would be great but ONLY if the same rules apply to them as their canine counterpart - i.e. if they are outside they must be on a leash, too!!!!

Beverly S. Dolin
(304) 746-0796

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan [goosegal50@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 2:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Yes, allow pets in! I remember when it used to be allowed, and we enjoyed taking our dog on vacation with us. You allow children, and they're more destructive and make more noise than any dog I've ever had.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ginny Grottendieck [kjg3999@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 12:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please allow pets in the WV State Parks cabins and lodges. Specifically large dogs. My German Shepherd and I are members of West Virginia K-9 Search and Rescue. We would love to be able to hold meetings and conferences at state parks. Right now we have to hold our training at the park, but stay elsewhere with our dogs. That complicates travel and cuts down on the actual training time we have. If we were able to bring our dogs with us and stay on park property, we would have more time for training. This would benefit not only our group but the citizens of WV whom we serve in this volunteer capacity.

Additionally, I would like to be able to travel with my dog to go hiking and enjoy other outdoor activities as WV State Parks.

Thank you for considering this Rule change.

Sincerely,

Virginia Ann Grottendieck

1511 Lee Street East

Charleston, WV 25311

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Tricia Sizemore

From: DSmith@eqt.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 11:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of allowing pets in State park cabins. Being a owner of a small dog. I have to plan my vacations where they allow pets. This year we are staying at a privately owned cabin on Cheat river because they allow pets. Thanks Doug Smith

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nicki.Young@bpd.treas.gov
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 9:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would love to see pets allowed at state parks. I have traveled to many different states with my dogs and there has never been a negative issue. Please, if you allow dogs, don't put a restriction on size. I have large dogs and they are well trained. They are well behaved, friendly, crate trained and always on lead. My dogs are search and rescue dogs - a bloodhound and a lab. Children love to meet them and learn about them. The key to success is to educate people and let them know what is expected of them and their dogs. If they don't respect the rules, then deal with them as individuals and make them be accountable.

Most dog owners would be delighted to put a refundable deposit on their room. I like the idea of a refundable deposit because it gives incentive for the owner to be more responsible. If they just pay a deposit and don't get money back - where is their motivation to keep the room clean?

Many families have pets and consider them part of the family. When I travel without my dogs, I'm always worried about what care they are given while I'm gone. Also, there is the issue of cost to board them. It cost as much to board my dogs as for me to stay over night. Needless to say, there are many trips that I don't make because it isn't feasible to pay boarding fees.

So, PLEASE allow dogs to stay with their families and don't restrict based on size.

Thanks,
Nicki

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 9:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Dogs in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Alex Stark [mailto:a13stark@carolina.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 8:28 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Dogs in State Parks

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am delighted to think my entire family (two dogs) will once again be able to vacation together in beautiful West Virginia parks.

Please consider allowing dogs back into the State Parks.

Sincerely,

Alex Stark

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 9:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Regarding Pets at Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: fredpross [mailto:maddogpross@meer.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 5:37 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Fw: Regarding Pets at Parks

We would like to weigh in on the side of allowing pets in state parks. For many years we rented a park cabin each summer. However, after we were adopted by our little dog a few years ago, we could no longer do so. We have no reliable "sitters" and would not leave her in a kennel. She is family and goes where we go.

I think reasonable conditions can and should be set for pets to be allowed, including an extra fee for the pet. Damages would also be the responsibility of the pet owner (of course a way would have to be found to verify what damage was done when).

It is our belief that the parks are indeed a public treasure, but that the system has to modernize in order to survive. That includes electronic access for the computer generation whose members seem to be unable to be "out of touch" with the rest of the world.

Thanks.

Fred and Kay Pross
Beverly, WV 26253

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brooke Hinsdale [Brooke.Hinsdale@CNSA.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 9:45 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it is a good idea. More and more pets are considered family members and families appreciate the opportunity to take them on family vacations. It is something I consider when planning our vacations. There would need to be rules, and perhaps even an additional fee, but that is to be expected in most cases.

You have some very nice parks which make for some great get-aways.

Thanks

Brooke Hinsdale

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Golf4us790@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 8:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets are a very important member of a family. When considering where to visit the locations that allow pets are usually chosen. I was not aware that our state parks were not pet friendly. There is always the scare that a dog will chew or damage or cause the room to smell. This is a legitimate concern, but is easily overcome. A deposit could be taken, making sure the room is cleaned well by the staff and possibly setting aside a certain # of rooms too be available for pet owners.

This is Wild and Wonderful WV and a lot of WV families have pets. WE need to consider this. Thank you for the option of speaking out.

Tina Phillips

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ronnie & Sherrie Bates [rsbates3@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 8:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I grew up in WVa. and often I visit my sister in the summer and we have to stay with her instead of at Twin Falls State Park because we have a pet. I can tell you 9 out of 10 families have indoor pets. They are like family to them so it would be great if you would allow them entrance into your facilities.
Thanks
Sherrie Bates
Boonville, North Carolina

Tricia Sizemore

From: Erve Chambers [echambers@anth.umd.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 3:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

If we could bring our dog with us and stay in a cabin in a West Virginia Park from time to time that would be great.

Erve Chambers
College Park, Maryland

Tricia Sizemore

From: celston [celston@stratuswave.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 3:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello ,

My name is Chuck Elston , a retired Ohio County school teacher , who lives in Wheeling. I wish to speak in favor of allowing pets in cabins , etc.,... at
WV state parks. Many of my teaching colleagues are now retired , or soon will be , and are spending much of their time in travel throughout our state and throughout the nation, and many take their pets with them as integral family members. I strongly suspect that a more friendly use policy , i.e. , allowing pets in cabins as part of family , will greatly increase the popularity of your parks with my fellow retirees , and me , as I travel with my dog.

Sincerely,

Chuck Elston

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan Hastings [snhandla@cstone.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 2:01 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I have been a long time enjoyer of WVa state park cabins... especially the rustic cabins at Seneca and Kumbrabow. I vote in favor of allowing pets!!! A damage deposit could be required... a leach rule for when outside of cabin... even rules about scooping the poop...
Please consider allowing pets even if only in a few of the parks!! Thanks for the opportunity to comment! Susan Hastings
Afton, VA

Sissie Summers

From: Patty Taylor
nt: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:08 AM
To: Sissie Summers
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Jackie Rae [mailto:jackierae88@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 9:05 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

I am writing in response to the request for public comment on the matter of allowing 'ordinary' pets to join their families in West Virginia's State Park cabins. I am a pet owner (Miniature Schnauzer) and a school teacher and I would first like to say that many pets I have witnessed behave much more appropriately and respectfully (to furniture, belongings, etc.) than children! Therefore, as long as children are encouraged to accompany their parents on vacations, pets would be acceptable in most cases! Also, in the article it was mentioned that many pet owners would like to travel with their pets, but it is often difficult due to their not being allowed. I believe this is accurate and that by designating certain cabins as 'pet-friendly,' you would gain the business of a wide variety of travelers that previously had to turn their business elsewhere. I, for one, love to visit state parks and think my dog and I would both love to sit on a cabin! porch and enjoy the evenings in the country atmosphere. We will definitely be guests if the change is made and my 'boy' is allowed. Thank you for considering this option.

J ie Campbell & Oscar

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Adrienne Allegretti [aallegretti@tnc.org]

Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 12:43 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I definitely think you should allow pets in the cabins. Many times I have wanted to stay in a cabin in WV but have not because I would need to find other accommodations for my dog. Besides the inconvenience of the rule, I also don't see why they are not allowed to begin with, especially if they are well behaved. Many people also travel with their pets, as I do, and many hotels (even especially nice hotels) allow pets in the room. I'm sure if you removed the rule you'd have more people using the cabins.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 9:11 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets at state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Sheri Richardson [mailto:SRICHARDSON@wvdep.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 8:55 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets at state parks

I vote YES for pets at state park's cabins!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 9:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Dogs in the parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Darwin Vaught [mailto:angelgnome@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:49 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Dogs in the parks

To: John R. Pope

Dear Sir, I am a dog lover and owner and deeply love the parks in WV. We visit one at least every other week and used to stay the night often. We would strongly support setting aside certain cabins for dog users. We would gladly pay for any extra cost, but assure you we are very aware and routinely work to keep our forests clean. Thank you for you consideration of this matter.
Darwin Vaught Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 9:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in WV parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Judy Blevins [mailto:JudyBlevins@genricorp.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 9:11 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in WV parks

Thank you for considering allowing pets in WV parks. Many pets are like family and are well behaved. It is a drawback in many ways to WV tourism when pets are not allowed in the parks. Should it be necessary to restrict them to certain areas, this would be acceptable to many pet owners.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 9:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in WV State Parks
Importance: High

-----Original Message-----
From: Duncan, Paul [mailto:pduncan@harris.com]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 6:14 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in WV State Parks
Importance: High

Hello Park staff,

I received an email indicating you were considering allowing pets in designated cabins. I think this would be fantastic. Let's face it, it' quite obvious over the last few years that people like to travel with their pets. Most hotels now offer rooms to accommodate these customers. I don't see why the Park systems wouldn't do the same. What would our existence be like without the companionship of our pets? Especially in the natural environment of a Park system. Unfortunately many rules these days are being changed to discriminate against pets. I'm originally from WV but currently live in Florida. We can't take our pet to the beach without penalty of a fine. Of course we still since it's a foolish law. Lawmakers need to have some consideration for mans best friend. I once stayed at Babcock state park (one of my favorite places on the planet!) and we were in from FL with our pet and I had to make her sleep in our Van. It would really have been neat if she could have joined us In the cabin. Most of the cabins If I remember correctly at Babcock are wood floors anyway.. Please consider my comments in your decision making process.

Thank you,
Paul Duncan

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 9:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Nan Artist [mailto:nanartist50@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 4:51 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at Parks

Dear Mr. Pope,

I was delighted to see that DNR Parks and Recreation is reconsidering the ban on pets in some of the cabins!

My family and I had stayed at the WV State Parks cabins so many times in the 1970's and 1980's, because we could take ALL of our family (at that time included two Malamutes) on vacation. Since the ban on pets in the cabin areas, we have not stayed in a cabin but once. When we did bring our pets, on departure, we were very careful to sweep and wash the floors, and patrol the outside of the cabin area for any sign of our pet's being there.

On two occasions, our dogs alerted us to potential dangers in the forest at Watoga. One time there had been a bear lurking nearby, and our male Malamute kept pulling us in the opposite direction away from the bear. I could smell it, but it would have been too late by the time we would have crossed its path. On another visit to Watoga there had been a rattlesnake on our path, and, again our Malamute came to our "rescue" by blocking our walking until we noticed it. It had been a dry season, and the snakes must have been coming out to find water.

Our beloved Malamutes are gone, but we now have smaller quiet house dogs (my children) that we would love to take on vacation with us to the WV State Parks. We have missed the Parks' cabins so much, Tygart Lake, Blackwater Falls, Watoga, Twin Falls....each was so special: one of the treasures of our beautiful State! We have not been to the State Parks very much because of the ban on pets, and would truly love to go back to enjoy the true beauty of our State Parks!

Thank-you for reconsidering, and I hope that the repeal succeeds!

Yours Very Truly,
Nancy R. Jorgensen
234 Beechwood Estates
Scott Depot, WV 25560

Tricia Sizemore

From: bcharles [bcsuthers@charter.net]

Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 8:11 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Mr.Pope:

Thank you for considering this rule change. My husband and I visit at least 2 state parks at least twice a year and we are a dog owner. In order to visit, we are forced to stay in private facilities that allow dogs. If some cabins and rooms in lodges permitted our pet, we would certainly consider staying in those rather than private facilities. Staying in a park rather than outside it would be of great interest to us.

We, as many other pet owners, are courteous and responsible pet owners. Our dog is obedience trained and we clean up after our pet. We also keep all shots up to date and make certain that she does not have fleas. We do understand that these things are certainly issues which must be considered when making the decision to allow pets. However, we believe that with the proper requirements in place that allowing pets in some cabins and some rooms would benefit the state by increasing tourism. Certainly the private sector in Canaan Valley, for instance, where we go twice per year, believes that it is beneficial to their business to allow pets in some of their accommodations.

Therefore, we absolutely support a rule change that would allow some of the state's accommodations to be "pet friendly". Take a look at what the private sector is doing. There is even a web site where pet owners can search for "pet friendly' accommodations. There is demand for this and we hope you are persuaded to make this change.

Sincerely yours,

Rebecca S. Charles
1614 Lexington Dr.
Charleston, WV 25303

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 3:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Sandra Ferguson [mailto:ferg@ntelos.net]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 3:03 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in cabins

One of the reasons we rent cabins in our state parks is so we can take the dog with us.....no pets and we'll go elsewhere.

Sandra Ferguson

--
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Tricia Sizemore

From: Deborah Reed [deborahreed@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 2:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I and several people I know would very much appreciate being able to ta ke our pet(s) when traveling. In several states where I have visited s tate parks, pets were allowed as long as on a leash when out. Th ey also had a security deposit of $25 for keeping a pet with you that was re funded when you checked out. I think it would be a wonderful if I were allowed to keep my pet since I sometimes travel alone.

"We will improve the quality of life for West Virginians with behav ioral health needs".

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Deborah Reed
350 Capitol Street, Room 350
Charleston, WV 2530 1-3702
Phone: 304-558-3717
Fax: 304-558-4245
E-Mail: deborahreed@wvdhhr.org

Tricia Sizemore

From: Peter L. Cuffaro [wastemanagement45@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 12:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Lysti Looney; Frank Jezioro
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

June 6, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

RE: Proposal to Permit Overnight Park Guests to Keep Pets (Dogs and/or Cats) in State Park Cabins and Possibly in Lodge
Rooms

My wife and I would greatly appreciate your consideration of permitting overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

I am physically challenged, confined to a wheelchair due to a spinal cord injury.

In the fall of 2004, my wife and I wanted to rent a wheelchair accessible cabin at Blackwater Falls for four days in the month of October. We cancelled those plans because we could not bring our family dog "Maggie", who is part Border Collie and Brittany Spaniel.

The department needs to realize that many folks are now traveling with their dogs and cats in today's world.

We went on a hunting trip to Texas last November. We drove and took "Maggie" with us on the trip. She was welcomed at Red Roof Inns as well as many other hotels along the route. She was even welcomed at the YO Ranch where I hunted. And yes, we would not have taken this trip if "Maggie" could not go with us.

For your information, many homes in the Outer Banks of North Carolina now accept vacationing pets too.

Erin and I would love to travel more in our State of West Virginia and visit its state parks, but will not do so until dogs (family pets) are accepted at our parks and their cabins.

The State needs to consider the amount of money it is losing by not permitting travelers to bring their pets with them when traveling to W.Va. State Parks.

Thank you for your time and consideration concerning this request.

With best regards,

PETE AND ERIN CUFFARO
102 HUNTERS RIDGE ROAD
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA
wastemanagement45@comcast.net
(304) 242-0405 (Home)

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna_Randolph@us.crawco.com
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:59 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We are residence of WV, and vist the State Parks often. We do have a dog and our dog is our family. We take her everywhere. We do go South to North Carolina and South Carolina and have stayed in hotels etc while traveling. We have been to Stonewall and stayed in the Cottages on three ocassions and do love it. We would like to take our dog who is very well trained, she would love the area.
We would also like to see West Virginia do as others throughout the country and allow pets in the State Parks. We feel certain out of state travelers would definitely stay in our wonderful state then.

Thank you

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:47 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Let pets into wv parks

-----Original Message-----
From: charmk9@charter.net [mailto:charmk9@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 8:21 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Let pets into wv parks

I was so happy to see you might consider letting pets back into the park cabins. We stopped visiting the parks for vacations, etc. when the rules stopped us from bringing my search and rescue dogs...yes, even that type dog was stopped. Even on searches we were told we couldn't take the dogs in when we could go in to clean up or rest. (but this was at the lodge) Anyway, please change the rule back to letting pets into cabins! Charmen Gentry (Charm) WV K9 FACT Member of DMORT Region III Associate member of NOVASAR

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:47 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: No pets rule at state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: colonialdame [mailto:colonialdame@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:36 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: No pets rule at state parks

I would like to voice my support of a change in your present policy which does not allow pets in state parks lodging. I would love to bring my Labrador Retriever and stay at one of your facilities in the mountains. However, I have inquired several times only to be told that pets are not allowed. Please change this rule and designate some of your cabins as pet friendly. I, and many other pet owners, would take advantage of the state parks if our canine companions were also welcome. Thank you, Diana Johnson

---

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http://www.peoplepc.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:47 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing pets in at Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: RITA M ALBURY [mailto:ALBURY@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:11 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Allowing pets in at Parks

I am in favor of allowing pets at state park lodging. Many people own pets and they are like their children.

I think it would increase your patrons and park usage.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in park lodging

-----Original Message-----
From: Aldy Sauvageot [mailto:alddel@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:38 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in park lodging

My wife and I have been VIPP's since just about the first year that the program started and have visited all but Moncove Lake many times over the years. For the past 15 years we have had first a 6 lbs Yorkie and now we have a 6.5 lb and a 4.5 lb Maltese. We tried using kennels for the first few years with the Yorkie, but that didn't work out very well, so we have not been able to stay in the parks since. Our dogs go on all trips with us since we got the Maltese four years ago.

We would love to be able to stay at the parks, but since there is only the two of us (humans), and we normally eat out, we would like to be able to stay in the lodges. We believe the no-pet policy should changed for both the cabins and the lodges.

George Sauvageot
977 Elliot St.
St. Albans, WV 25177
727-8649

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Bonita Turner [mailto:wptm@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 6:28 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins

Public opinion may be sent to John R. Pope, chief of the DNR Parks and Recreation,

Mr. John R. Pope
Chief, DNR Parks & Recreation

We were delighted to have a family member send us an e-mail notifying us that WV DNR is considering amending their no pet regulation at state parks and we want to add our endorsement to this change.

We understand that the change would be restricted to the cabins. But to us that would mean an opportunity to vacation with our two small dogs.

Bonita Turner

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet Friendly Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: drjjjorgensen@att.net [mailto:drjjjorgensen@att.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 10:12 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pet Friendly Cabins

I strongly favor the idea of "pet" cabins as I am one of many who would love to be able to take our dogs with us on what is basically an outdoors vacation. A walk in the woods without your dog by your side just doesn't have the same feeling.

When my family and I lived in WV in the late 70's early 80's, pets were welcome and we visited the cabins frequently as they were a tremendous vacation value. The same would hold true now IF we could take our pets with us as opposed to having to kennel them to visit the parks.

As a responsible pet owner, I would have no problem with additional security deposits on rental or even a slight upcharge for additional cleaning. Please go back to the old policy and let our "family" vacation together in these wonderful facilities that the state is blessed with.

Great Idea--

Robert Jorgensen
234 Beechwood Estates
Scott Depot, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:23 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: dogs

-----Original Message-----
From: Emma Reynolds [mailto:elrjazz@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 8:33 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: dogs

I'm so excited to hear you are discussing the possibility of allowing dogs in cabins once again! Hoping for a favorable outcome. Emma Reynolds 2114 Penn. Av Chas. WV 25302

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: allowing pets at the parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Poohrx59@aol.com [mailto:Poohrx59@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 10:57 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: allowing pets at the parks

We would visit and stay at the parks if you allowed pets. There should be rooms designated for pets and the pooper scooper law should be enforced. I don't believe that pets can do any more damage than children and many people opt to only have pets, no children and therefore should not be penalized because of that decision. My daughter and son in law do not have children, love to travel and hike but have to go out of state to find places that will accept their family. You might want to look at statistics showing how much money people spend on their pets when making the decision to accept them. I think you would find it profitable to allow them in the parks.
Thank You
Nikki Stiltner
Huntington, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: CHarrisonWV@aol.com [mailto:CHarrisonWV@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 8:06 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in cabins

We travel with out pets and think it is a good idea to let the pets stay in the cabins. Due to the no pet rule we have been unable to plan a vacation in your state park. Hopeflully, we will be able to visit a state park with our pets if this rule is changed.

Thank you,

Robert and Cathy Harrison, Bud who hopes he can come to your cabin.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Roland Layton [mailto:omb00764@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 5:10 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets

I would vote for allowing pets to stay in the cabins at the West Virginia State Parks and Forests.
Frances Layton
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Let pets into wv parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Marsha Chambers [mailto:mchambers@wvfibernet.net]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 8:10 AM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Let pets into wv parks

I am glad to hear you might consider letting pets back into the park cabins. When we go on any trip our cocker spaniel goes with us. I love traveling WV Parks but before I can stay there my dog will need to stay too. Please change the rule back to where our beloved pets can stay in the cabins. It would be appreciated by all pet owners.

Thank You,

Mars.
Marsha L. Chambers
Accounts Payable
FiberNet, LLC
211 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301
Toll Free 866-363-8411 Ext 195
304) 720-2195 Phone
(304) 720-2114 Fax
(304) 741-1703 Cell
mchambers@wvfibernet.net

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in our Park Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Peggy Johnson [mailto:pjohnson@wvfibernet.net]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 8:27 AM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Pets in our Park Cabins

Hello,

I am an advocate of letting pets stay in the state park cabins in WV. We, as a group of folks and pet lovers, stay a lot at the Watoga cabins. Not only is it safer to have a dog with you, since our world is crazier now days, but they are a part of the family.

Anyone who would want to take their dog with them on a weekend trip, would definitely be the type to make sure they don't tear up any items in the cabins, etc., and to clean up after them.

My vote is to allow pets to be part of a family's trip to stay in our wonderful cabins in the state park system.

Regards,

Peggy Johnson
iberNet Wholesale Account Manager
304-720-5280 Office
304-720-2114 Fax
304-741-2843 Cell
211 Leon Sullivan Way
Charleston, WV 25301
pjohnson@wvfibernet.net

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:16 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in parks

-----Original Message-----
From: K9HDLER@aol.com [mailto:K9HDLER@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 8:40 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in parks

Pleas[illegible] the park cabins. Most family pets are housebroken and managed--more so than kids sometimes. ;)

Thank you
Kathy

Tricia Sizemore

From: Eric Saidi [ESaidi@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 7:50 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe that this would be a great convenience to everyone who travels. I know that it is costly to board animals and if they could go as well, then that would be a money saver. It may also encourage more tourists as they would not have to leave their pets behind to go on vacation.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Eric Saidi

Information Services

(304)558-9520

esaidi@dot.state.wv.us

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Tricia Sizemore

From: Janet Props [jprops@zoominternet.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 8:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello. I think allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms would be a great thing. I have a dog that goes everywhere with us on vacation. He is a member of our family. If I can't find accomidations that allow pets I will switch my destination elsewhere.

I think this would generate more business for the parks.

Thanks for considering families with pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: cindy [hotbug@cox.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 6:18 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

some hotels and motels have assigned rooms for people with pets. We have smoking rooms. I have been in a "no smoking room" and have cigarette burns in my sheets. That may be a bigger issue. Most and I'll say it again, MOST people whom travel with a pet have a trained pet.
As long as there are a few rooms for these people, I think that would be fair. Not all rooms should be for pets. You have to think of possible problems like fleas and some "accidents". It is bad enough many strangers share the same pillows through out the country, we don't need to add pet dander to those who don't want it. :)
Thank you for asking.

FREE Emoticons for your email! Click Here!



Tricia Sizemore

From: CATTAILAT06@wmconnect.com
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 4:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think pets in the cabins would be acceptable.
Pets in lodge rooms that open to the outdoors (like Canaan Valley SP) would be acceptable.
I don't think it would be a good idea at park lodges that do not open to the outside (like Blackwater Falls SP).

Cabins or rooms that allow pets should be like smoking or nonsmoking rooms, as some people are allergic to pets. Each cabin and each group of lodge rooms should have a designated area for pet bathroom stops, complete with scoops and doggie septic systems, such as Doggie Doolies or bags and special sanitary cans.

Overall, probably an okay idea to allow pets; many pets are cleaner and quieter than some people. Most people are pretty good about taking responsibility for cleaning up after their pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara McCreary [bmccreary@citynet.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 2:50 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and I are members of the VIPP program and would enjoy being able to be able to stay in the state park cabins with our dog. Designating certain cabins is a good idea and maybe even a refundable deposit in case of any damage.

We hope you decide in favor of this idea.

Sincerely,
Barbara and Terry McCreary

Tricia Sizemore

From: KatnDavidWhite [KatnDavidWhite@citynet.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 11:33 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

First of all, I am absolutely *thrilled* with the prospect that my dog, Sheela, might actually get to go on vacation to the state parks' cabins like the other members of our family currently can. In the past 10 years, my husband & I literally have not vacationed anywhere outside of WV. One of the only disappointing limitations has been the fact that due to the current cabin restrictions, Sheela can't always go with us unless we are in the tent camping season. I see many people traveling with pets, especially dogs, these days and I'm sure many tourists to our state find themselves with the same dilemma when it comes to their pets. I also think that most people who do travel with their pets consider them more as "family members" and therefore are probably going to have clean, well-behaved (i.e. "house broken") pets as a result.

My recommendations would be:

1. Have some of the cabins at each park designated as "Pet Friendly" (& others as 'off limits') just like many of the motels/hotels now do with designated smoking/non-smoking rooms.
2. Require a pet deposit for each pet that would be refunded after a post-check out cabin (& surrounding yard) inspection has been satisfactorily completed. Maybe a sliding scale based on the weight/size of the dog, with small dogs & cats(?) in the same category, etc....OR (less desirably) a weight limit of say 50-75-100 lbs. (guess where my dog falls in that category?!!).
3. Have some pet rules i.e. leashes, "pooper scooper patrol" of cabin yard by owners, pets not left alone in the cabin unless confined in a cage/crate or left chained (& barking) outside @ night, etc., etc. (NOTE: I doubt if that last one would happen because who leaves their "child" outside in the dark, scary woods?...BUT it could/might happen!)
4. Require pet owners to have proof of current vaccinations with them or as part of the pre-registration process so other pets are reasonably safe health-wise visiting a cabin previously used by strangers.

Thanks for letting me add my "2 cents worth"!

Kat White
1899 Pine Manor Rd.
Charleston, WV 25311
wk. ph: 347-1346
hm. ph.: 344-4448

Tricia Sizemore

From: David A Moore [davemoore12@msn.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 10:14 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think allowing pets in cabins is a great idea! I have a dog and I have not rented cabins because we can not take him. I do believe that you would get more guest if you allowed pets.
Thank You
David Moore

Tricia Sizemore

From: Georgina Robinettte [gr03@charter.net]

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:46 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

As dog lovers, my husband and I always used to bring our dog with us when we stayed in a WV cabin. We were very disappointed when this practice was changed. Many times over the past few years we have changed our minds about staying in a cabin because of this. We always look on the internet to see if by chance, this law has been changed back. We vote YES to changing this law.

Kenneth & Georgina Robinette
Dawes
WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robert Weekley [weeks8381@verizon.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

One reason I do not stay at a cabin in WV State Parks is because I cannot take my dog. I go to Canada every year and most camps accept dogs and most motels. I would vote to allow doges in the cabins.

Robert H. Weekley135 Vermont Ave. Clarksburg

Tricia Sizemore

From: SLilmis@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:45 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think pets should be allowed to stay at the cabins at state parks. I would go if I could take my dog and I am sure more people would go more often if they could take their entire family which includes their pets. Thanks you for taking the time to consider this option and I hope it goes through.
Sincerely,
Connie Simpson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Allen Fletcher [pastorallen@citynet.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 6:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To whom it may concern,

I would like to voice my support for allowing pets in State Park cabins, and lodges. Many families would love to visit the beautiful parks of West Virginia, but have difficulty finding people to watch the family pet.

We have a small dog (Pomeranian), which we carry in a small Pet Taxi cage.

You may want to consider a small deposit, which would be returned if there was no pet damage.

Sincerely,
Allen Fletcher
422 Eleventh Street
Rainelle, WV 25962

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robert Burgroff [rburgroff1@citynet.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 4:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am for Pets In parks and cabins.I have small poodle that would to go with us over night stay at a state park.thank you Mr. &Mrs. Robert Burgroff.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 4:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Ted Cheatham [mailto:ted_cheatham@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:50 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at Parks

We vote to allow controlled animals at the state parks. We have not made several trips to state parks because the drive is longer and we do not want to have to put our dogs in the kennel over the weekend. We would much prefer to bring them with us and stay in a cabin.

Ted Cheatham
ted_cheatham@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mjhkafa@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe pets should be allowed at State parks as long as they are leashed.
Mary Jo Hansen
Charleston WV 25302

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Park Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Lou Robinson [mailto:lou.robinson@chriskids.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:44 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins

Dear Commissioner Pope,

I was delighted to see that the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources is seeking input with regard to allowing pets to stay with owners in state park cabins. I would like to offer my vote of support for changing the policy to allow pets. We have three well-trained Shelties and we often make lodging decisions and indeed, even vacation design decisions, based on where our pets will be welcome. Typically we pay a $25-50 pet deposit (total for all three dogs, not per pet) which is either refundable or nonrefundable depending on the lodging policy at a given location. The refundability of the deposit has never affected our decision as to where to stay. The important part is being able to have the dogs with us. As recently as last fall we made arrangements to meet West Virginia friends in North Carolina at a rental cabin because it welcomed pets. We would much rather have stayed at Watoga State Park, but it was not an option since pets were not allowed.

I urge you to revise the current policy to allow pets in certain designated cabins. It would greatly enhance the pleasure of those of us who enjoy traveling with our pets and I'm sure it would enhance WV revenue.

Best regards,

Lou Robinson

Lou Robinson
Chief Financial Officer
CHRIS Kids, Inc.
3111B Clairmont Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30329
Phone 404.564.3440 Cell 404.401.9304 Fax 404.564.0081

"the joy is in the becoming...." Aristotle

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Splendid News

-----Original Message-----
From: Nancy Guthrie [mailto:nguthrie@capcitycom.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:48 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Splendid News

Thanks for considering a policy to allow pets to accompany their owners at state park facilities. We have long wanted to rent a cabin at one of the state parks but have not done so because of the no-pet policy currently in place. We'd love to go to one of our beautiful state parks but with our pets and if you adopt the pet policy we will be able to do just that. — Thanks again for the consideration — Nancy Guthrie - Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in WV Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Jena Webb [mailto:jenawebb@wvdnr.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:08 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in WV Parks

We have a yearly family vacation and my brothers and sisters (they all live out of State) and I meet in difference destinations and we would love to be able to have another family vacation in WV and be allowed to have Mandy that is the family dog stay in cabins at our State Parks with us. I believe more people would rent cabins for family vacations and holidays.

Jena Webb
RR 2, Box 197
Milton, WV 25541

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: anna [mailto:anna@BLANDANDBLAND.COM]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:14 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Parks

I am writing in response to the survey. I believe that state parks should have pet-friendly cabins and facilities.

Thank you,
Anna Skaggs

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jim Park [jpark@wvbep.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Being a owner of Golden Retivers and no kids my wife and i like to travel with in out state. (My father was a state park superintendent for years at Watoga and other parks)Would be nice to go to cabwaylingo trout fish with our dogs.

M/M James W. PARK III
goldentweetie@yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cecil, Tina [tcecil@wvmi.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets are people too!

I think they should be able to stay with their families on vacation.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Webb, Teresa [TWebb@ebs.keyfamily.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am a native of West Virginia, now living out of the state. I visit the parks for vacationing and would love to see you have pet friendly cabins in all the state parks. Thank you for your consideration. Teresa L. Webb
5752 Pug Lane Iron Station NC 28080

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jean LaFleur

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:07 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,
I'm in favor of allowing pets to stay in cabins while vacationing/traveling through West Virginia.
I believe most animals that travel with its owner is a well behaved and well trained animal.
Therefore, my vote goes for the pets. Thank you.

Jean Lafleur
WVDNR
Law Enforcement Section
Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3
Charleston, WV 25305

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:03 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----
From: o2btan2@aol.com [mailto:o2btan2@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:00 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject:

Please allow pets in cabins at WV state parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Chs49@aol.com

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 1:39 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

YES PERMIT PETS IN CABINS,

I HAVE TWO OLDER DOGS THAT MEAN SO MUCH TO ME I HATE TO LEAVE WITH ANYONE, THEIR ARE MOTELS THAT PERMIT THEM BUT I WOULD LIKE TO STAY CLOSER TO MY HOME NAND THIS STATE IS SO GREAT , WHY GO ANY WHERE BUT TO A GREAT WV,CABIN. OVER THE YEARS I FIND CHILDREN AND PERSONS WHO DRINK MAKE , PROBLEMS IN ROOM , MY DOGS DO NOT , CLEAN UP OUT SIDE WHEN THEY ARE WALKED IS NO PROBLEM,

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND PLEASE MAKE IT HAPPEN ,I HAVE SPENT 74 YEARS IN WV AND WOULD LIKE TO SPEND MORE BEFORE I GO, IN THE PARKS , WHERE ELSE?

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lampros, Michael [mlampros@wvmi.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 1:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Mr. Pope:

I would like very much to have the opportunity to take my two small dogs with us during possible future stays in West Virginia state park cabins. We have a place at Ocean Isle Beach, NC, and since we are owners we, of course, take our dogs with us when we vacation down there. We would be very much inclined to visit West Virginia's state parks, which I can't say we've done very often, if we could take our two Boston terriers with us. I know this was allowed for several years in the not-too-distant past, and, as a responsible pet owner, I strongly recommend reinstating this option.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this recommendation.

Sincerely,

Michael Lampros
708 Kanawha Blvd., W.
Charleston, West Virginia 25302

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 1:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Judy, Steve [mailto:SJudy@tax.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 1:10 PM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Pets

The West Virginia State Parks System should amend the rules and allow pets to stay in cabins. I feel responsible pet owners would not mind to give a deposit which would be returned if no damage occurred to the premises.

Name & address available upon request.

Tricia Sizemore

From: I-64 Eastbound Welcome Center [i64east@tourism.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 1:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I work for The West Virginia,
Division of Tourism at I- 64 East
in Huntington, I was thrilled to hear on TV, that a possible rule
change in state parks, for pets to stay overnight. There are so many Tourist, traveling through WV, most people travel with their pets, want to stay in state parks& lodges, but they have there pets with them and cannot stay. There are more people including their pets in their travel, more than children, unbelievable. I hope it will pass, I am a pet lover my self, and had to stay in private cabins or Hotel/ motel. If you want to contact me 304 522- 1062.
Thank You Gwen Hicks.
West Division of Tourism.

Tricia Sizemore

From: JOHN PERKINS [JPERKINS@wvdep.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 12:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think it is an excellent idea to allow pets in cabins at WV State Parks. My dog loves to go camping with me. I have taken her to several campgrounds run by the ACOE. I would likely visit the State Parks more often than I do if my dog was allowed to visit with me.

John M. Perkins
5228 Bethany Drive
Cross Lanes, WV 25313
304-776-6643

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lois Nogoda [LNogoda@peoplesfcu.com]

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:48 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I AM FOR PEOPLES ALLOWING THEIR PETS TO STAY IN THE CABINS AT OUR PARKS IF THOSE ANIMALS ARE HOUSE TRAINED. I DO NOT KNOW IF ANYONE COMES IN AND CLEANS THE CABINS AFTER A CHECKOUT. IF NOT, IT WOULD NOT LOOK GOOD FOR SOMEONE COMING IN AFTER TO FIND A SURPRISE IN THEIR CABIN. IF SOMEONE BRINGS AN ANIMAL TO THE CABIN THEY SHOULD BE CHARGED AN EXTRA FEE FOR THAT ANIMAL. THAT IS THE WAY IT WORKS WHEN YOU RENT AN APARTMENT THAT ALLOWS PETS. YOU HAVE TO PAY THE FEE. THAT IS NOT RETURNED. IT IS USED TO CLEAN THE APARTMENT OF ANY ODORS OR SUPRISES.

Lois Nogoda
Charleston, wv

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Brock, Andrea J. [mailto:AJBROCK@fahlgren.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:46 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on allowing pets in park cottages/cabins. I am very much in favor of correcting this 'inequality' for the 'four-legged' members of our families. 'Family' is the important word here – and most of our friends are accompanied by their entire 'family' when they travel. I have been pleased to note in the last several years that many, many hotel/motel chains have seen how important it is to welcome all family members to their establishments. I believe it is certainly in the best interest of our State Parks to follow their lead. It is important for West Virginians to be able to vacation 'at home' ... and, even more importantly ... we need to encourage those out-of-state dollars to come into our State as well! If the whole 'family' is not welcome ... that is discouragement ... not encouragement!

My vote is 'yes' for welcoming pets!

Andrea Brock
VP – Media Director
FAHLGREN, INC.
Parkersburg, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
nt: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:40 AM
.o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Jill Totten [mailto:jillt@cnpapers.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:36 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pet Cabins

I too am an animal lover and would love to be able to bring my pet along. The reason I do not rent Cabins now is because I am unable to bring my dog along with me. I don't feel comfortable boarding her in a small cage while I am off having a wonderful time. I know a lot of other individuals feel the same way. Its hard for them to enjoy themselves while worrying about their pet. I believe that more people would rent cabins if they were allowed to bring along their pet. Thanks for listening to my comments.

Jill Totten
Human Resources Assistant
Charleston Newspapers
jillt@cnpapers.com
304-348-4846
304-348-3009 (fax)

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bobby Wardle [guj02108@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and I do alot of camping with our children, in the spring, summer, and fall. We, however, have a 2 year old yorkie, that is housebroken, and, only weighs 6lbs. She is so much a part of the family, we take her everywhere, when vacationing, we even find the motels, that allow for pets. I think it would *increase* business for the State Parks of WV to allow for pets in their cabin areas. We, for one, would love to come to several of our WV state parks, but *do not* wish, to leave our doggie anywhere. I think, that if the dog, is not of a too large a size, was restricted to a leash, and was well housebroken, why there could not be allowed to accompany their families, on vacations? This would, like I say, open up for *many more* families to vacation in many of WV's fine state parks, without the added stress, and or expense, of trying to find a place for the family pet. I am hoping, that even possibly by this summer, this issue, would be reconsidered. Well mannered, house broken doggies, would be the key...and possibly even a size limit. With hopes of a soon coming change!!
Mr. and Mrs. Nelson
guj02108@mail.wvnet.edu
NMHP Lot 34
Beverly, WV 26253

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: No-Pet Rule
Importance: High

-----Original Message-----
From: Squire, Sandra [mailto:SSQUIRE@psc.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:26 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: No-Pet Rule
Importance: High

I strongly urge DNR to amend it's policy regarding no-pets in State Parks to allow pets in cabins, not the lodges. I would visit the Parks several times a year, reservations allowing, IF pets were allowed in the cabins. I have stayed @ bed and breakfasts that allow dogs under a certain weight, usually 50 pounds. Perhaps a weight-limit would be advisable.

Sandra Squire
Director/Executive Secretary
Public Service Commission of WV
FAX 304-340-0325
TEL 304-340-0426

Tricia Sizemore

From: jane.wooten@wachovia.com
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Thank you so much for offering this opportunity to comment on pets in cabins. For the past five years, my family and I have spent a week at a cabin in one of West Virginia's state parks. We currently live in North Carolina but are native West Virginians and love returning to our home state for vacation. It's very upsetting that we cannot bring our beloved Shetland Sheepdog with us. He is well behaved, friendly and completely house-broken -- it would be such fun to have him with us. It's also very frustrating that each time we've left him behind, we've noticed that other people staying in the cabin areas sneak their dogs into the cabins and that the park staff tend to turn a blind eye toward the violation. It's not fair that we observe the rules but others seem to get a free pass. I think you should consider allowing by regulation what already seems to be happening in practice. It would probably make sense to put some restrictions on pets (e.g. size and number) as well as give staff the right to evict any pets that are acting aggressively or not properly restrained.

It would also be nice if you could lift the restriction by Monday (June 6th) when my family and I go to Greenbrier State Forest for another week -- without our Shetland Sheepdog!

Jane Wooten

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: ALLOWING PETS IN STATE PARKS LODGING

-----Original Message-----
From: Manchin, Patty [mailto:PManchin@psc.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:25 AM
To: PARKS@WESTVIRGINIA.COM
Subject: ALLOWING PETS IN STATE PARKS LODGING

I HEARD THE DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES IS TAKING PUBLIC COMMENTS ON WHETHER TO CHANGE ITS NO-PETS RULE AT STATE PARK LODGING.

I AM VERY MUCH **IN FAVOR** OF THIS CHANGE AND DEDICATING CERTAIN CABINS AS PET CABINS WOULD BE THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE THIS.

IN MY OPINION I WOULD ONLY ALLOW **DOGS** AND **CATS**. IF JUST THE WORD **"PETS"** IS USED YOU MIGHT GET ALL KINDS OF ANIMALS. THIS COULD BE DANGEROUS.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Lynn Peery [mailto:lpeery@cnpapers.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:59 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in cabins

Thank you for bringing this subject to the table again this year. I only hope the positive response is better than the last effort. I like the idea of keeping my money here in West Virginia. My only choices now are cottages and cabins that are privately owned and allow my pet to accompany me. I love the state parks in West Virginia. They have excellent hiking trails and lots of wild life to enjoy. I WILL return to the state park cabins if I can bring my pet. This is also great news to several friends that also have chosen to spend their money on private cabins and in Virginia, that, as you know, allow pets in certain parks.

Again, from an animal lover, I thank you for the opportunity to support us.

Lynn Peery
Major Account Executive
Charleston Newspapers
1001 Virginia St East
Charleston, WV 25301
304-348-4897
Fax 304-348-5118

Tricia Sizemore

From: candys@up.net
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear WVDNR
Our pet is a family member, which I am sure is the case in most families with pets. Yes allow them. I don't think that pet owner families would mind making a deposit for the safety of your building if necessary. I sure don't. Those that travel with their pets do so because they want the pet with them. If it came to staying somewhere or not- depending on pets being allowed, let me assure you we would, and have many times, moved on to someplace else that welcomes a member of our family. Our dog Hunter. Candy Soderena

GO FOR IT!!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Diana Young [DYoung@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please allow pets to accompany their families. I don't stay anywhere that will not allow my four legged fur baby to stay with me.

Thank you,

Diana Young
Information Systems Specialist III
1900 Kanawha Blvd Bldg 5 Rm 751
Charleston, WV 25305
304-558-9519

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing pets in West Virginia State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Steve Frame [mailto:tco0008@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:47 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Allowing pets in West Virginia State Parks

To whom it may concern:

I read in this morning's Charleston Gazette that the DNR is thinking about allowing pets in West Virginia State Parks' lodging. I am very much IN favor of that! I have vacationed at many of our State Parks/Forests over the years since early childhood and have enjoyed my many stays. The only way I can think of to improve my visits to our wonderful parks would be to have my dog with me, as well as my family and friends.

I think allowing pets in State Park lodging is long overdue!

Thanks for considering this change in policy.

Steve Frame
Nitro, WV

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail - You care about security. So do we.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: paralegalmegal@att.net [mailto:paralegalmegal@att.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:59 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

Pets should be allowed in park cabins as they are in most hotels and motels across the country. I take my dog with me regularly when I travel and at most have to keep her crated if maid service is expected and or pay an extra fee for specialized cleaning, usually $10 per stay.

Megan Berry

Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Walker [thelaw5@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:09 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore

I don't have a compelling reason to allow pets but we stopped using the parks when pets were baned.

Larry Walker

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: 6-2-2005

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Frank Jezioro
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:46 AM
To: Peter L. Cuffaro
Cc: John Pope
Subject: RE: 6-2-2005

Pete, will forward your comments to John Pope, Chief of parks. Public comment period will run for 30 days and Parks will compile the comments o e a feel for what the pubic wants. Frank

---

From: Peter L. Cuffaro [mailto:wastemanagement45@comcast.net]
Sent: Thu 6/2/2005 5:06 PM
To: Frank Jezioro
Cc: Lysti Looney
Subject: 6-2-2005

Frank:

As per our conversation on Wednesday, May the 25th at the Physically Challenged Advisory Board Meeting, I would greatly appreciate the consideration of any recommendations that can be made to change the rules not allowing dogs in West Virginia State Parks.

As I mentioned to you, my wife and I wanted to rent a wheelchair accessible cabin at Blackwater Falls last October. We cancelled those plans because we could not bring our family dog.

The department needs to realize that many folks are now traveling with their dogs in today's world.

We went on a hunting trip to Texas last November. We drove and took our dog "Maggie". She is part Border Collie and Brittany Spaniel. She was welcomed at Red Roof Inns as well as many other hotels along the route. She was even welcomed at the YO Ranch where I hunted.

Erin and I would love to travel more in our State of West Virginia and visit its state parks, but will not do so until dogs (family pets) are accepted at our parks and their cabins.

Thank you for your time and consideration concerning this request.

With best regards,

PETE CUFFARO
WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA
wastemanagement45@comcast.net

6/3/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mike Fry [Mike.Fry@chhi.org]

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:06 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hello,
I most definitely think pets should be allowed. As you know when the family goes out on recreation trips the pets are part of the family. I believe that about 30% of American family have pets and will increase revenue to the parks. I have wanted to stay at many of the state parks but I don't, all because of pets not allowed.
I think you are heading in the right direction with this many other states allow pets that I've visited in the past and I will continue to visit unless WV changes their rules.

Thank you
Mike Fry
WV resident.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Walker [loopylarry@verizon.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 10:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I don't have any compelling reason that pets should be admitted to state parks but I stopped using the parks when pets were banned.

Larry Walker

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in parks...

-----Original Message-----
From: Marilyn Grubbs [mailto:marilyngrubbs@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:39 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in parks...

Please revise some of your facilities to accept pets. Especially cabins where barking wouldn't interrupt other guests.
Thank you, Marilyn Grubbs

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:40 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: John Tingley [mailto:jtingley7241@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:41 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

Hello,
I saw a article about the possibility of having some cabins set aside for families with pets. I fully support this idea as this is the only way my wife and I travel. We love the parks but can never stay at them because we always travel with our two dogs. I definately think the State Park system would benefit and I know we would.

Thanks,
John Tingley

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:37 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: WVDNR News: Public Comments Requested For Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Jerry Steerman [mailto:jesbiz@adelphia.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 4:21 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: RE: WVDNR News: Public Comments Requested For Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

Dear Sir, I think it is a very good idea to allow pets. I also would like to suggest a small fee to help with the upkeep of the parts of the lodging that pets would tend to damage, floors, spray, etc.

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to comment.....Jerry Steerman

-----Original Message-----
From: Hoy Murphy [mailto:hoymurphy@wvdnr.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2005 11:29 AM
Subject: WVDNR News: Public Comments Requested For Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

www.wvdnr.gov

Joe Manchin III, Governor

Frank Jezioro, Director

News Release: June 1, 2005

Hoy Murphy, Public Information Officer (304) 558-3380 hoymurphy@wvdnr.gov
Contact: J.R. Pope, Parks and Recreation Section Chief (304) 558-2764 parks@westvirginia.com

Public Comments Requested Through July 1 For Proposal to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

The Parks and Recreation Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is seeking public comments about a possible rule change that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

Anyone wishing to comment in favor or against this proposal should send their comments to:

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: John R. Pope, chief of DNR Parks and Recreation; Re: Pets in Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Kris Richmond [mailto:richmond1994@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:18 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: John R. Pope, chief of DNR Parks and Recreation; Re: Pets in Parks

Mr. Pope,
I strongly agree that pets should be allowed in the individual cabins of West Virginia's State Parks. In the cabins, it would be unlikely the animals would disturb other campers or people enjoying the park.

Although I am a citizen of the state, I travel to other regions and would enjoy staying the beautiful parks. I do not because an important part of my family is not welcome there-my pets. There are many people in nearby states who I am certain would appreciate and take advantage of such an opportunity.

Thank you for considering such an important step.
Kris Richmond

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:19 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in park lodging

-----Original Message-----
From: John T. Turner [mailto:Turnerbb@meer.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:18 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in park lodging

Folks - What a great idea. My wife and I never tavel without our pet dog. Couldn't think of leaving part of the family behind. We think this change will certainly be of benefit to our State Parks. Thanks for making the decision to let all of us use the Parks as much as we can. As we often camp with our pet in the Parks, now we can even try the other Park accommodations.

John Turner
Marlinton, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Tonya Sloan [mailto:Tonya_Sloan@acordianational.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 7:14 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

I think having cottages/cabins that allow pets is a great idea. I mean you already have hotels that do it. There are a lot of people like me that do not want to travel without their pet. Most peoples pets are just like another family member. You would not want to leave that family member for a week with someone that they don't know or that doesn't know them. And who's to say what really takes place behind closed doors. I know that we take our dog anytime that we are going to be gone overnight. I can say one thing though, we will not stay in a hotel that doesn't allow pets and we will not camp at a campground that does not allow pets. So I think that allowing pets at park cabins is an excellent idea.

Tonya Sloan
Cost Recovery Specialist
Acordia National
(304)340-0253 ext. 2125
Tonya_Sloan@AcordiaNational.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Tom Wooton [mailto:tom_wooton@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:09 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in parks

Dear Sir or Madam,
I believe that WV State Parks should allow guests to bring their pets, dogs and cats, with them when they stay at cabins in the parks. When outside I believe the animals should be required to be on a leash.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
Tom Wooton
107 Wildwood Ave
Beckley, WV 25801

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http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Public comment

-----Original Message-----
From: Renate Pore [mailto:renatepore@verizon.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:13 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Public comment

Dear Mr. Pope,
I am writing to comment on your policy regarding pets in state parks. I have a wonderful dog, who helps me relax and makes me laugh with her antics. A vacation without her is not half as much fun. I would be more likely to vacation in one of our wonderful state parks if my dog companion could come along. Therefore, I hope you will change your current no-pets policy to allowing pets.
Renate E Pore
916 Ridgemont Road
Charleston

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: McNealy, Sandy [mailto:Sandy.McNealy@camc.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:06 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins

I would like to say that I think this is a very good idea. My son and I use to love to go to Seneca State Forest and stay in their cabins, but we have not visited there for over 3 yrs. now because we have no one to leave our little dog with. We use to have a popup camper and always took our pet and he loved being out doors. I would visit cabins in WV more often if I could take him with me.

Thankyou,
Sandy McNealy
722 Mayflower Dr.,
Charleston, WV 25311

Tricia Sizemore

From: George D Peterson [George.D.Peterson@USA.dupont.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:34 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: trishatp@charter.net
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

When we travel we take our dogs. More and more motels and hotels are accomodating travelers with pets. We have not stayed at a state park primarily because of the pet restrictions. We are in favor of allowing pets to stay in cabins and/or lodge rooms, and would spend time at a state park if we could bring our dogs.

We understand the issues that some individuals have with pet allergies and are willing to pay extra for the additional cleaning required. Most people who travel with pets respect the accomodations and ensure that their pets are properly trained.

George Peterson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kris Kirk [Kris@cmi-gear.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 4:39 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom It May Concern,
I would allow pets in state parks but I make them pay a hefty pet damage fee just in case the pet tears up the cabin and that fee will be refundable. Lots of people have pets and they should be allowed to bring them with them.
Regards,
Kris Kirk

CMI Corp
224 Mill Road
PO Box 535
Franklin, WV 26807

phone 800-247-5901
fax 304-358-7991
email: kris@cmi-gear.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: The Coopers [thecoopers@wcgnet.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 5:55 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

YES I Think Dogs And Cats Should Be Allowed To Stay In State Park Cabins And Campgrounds. I Have No Preference Either Way Concerning Lodge Rooms. Since Some People Have Allergies To Pet Dander, There May Need To Be Some Cabins Designated As Pet Friendly And Others Not.

Last Fall We Wanted To Go Somewhere For A Long Weekend And Would Have Loved To Stay In One Of Our Great State Park Cabins But Since We Couldn't Take Our Dog We Went To Western North Carolina Instead.

Martin Cooper
P.O. Box 112
Cool Ridge WV 25825

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary Milton [gary.milton@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 6:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

pets should be allowed in the cabins and camping areas.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan Pietrantozzi [susanp6@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 7:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am in favor of pets in state park cabins. I believe pet owners would be willing to pay a damage deposit to bring their pets with them.

Tricia Sizemore

From: marv bush [l.bush@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 2:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Re: "take your dog with you"

Hi Tricia: **Yes, I was tickled to death to hear that the DNR in WV was looking at "offering this service" as we have 3 inside dogs & would love to be able to rent cabins..etc. with this service. When will we know more about what the DNR is thinking of...price...etc? We have 148 acerage of land but always walk our dogs on leashes unless they are in the woods. I have always said that I would never kennel my dogs as their hearts would be broken but with this service available, it definite would fit our needs.**
Lorie Bush

---- Original Message ----
From: Tricia Sizemore
To: l.bush@citynet.net
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 2:36 PM
Subject: RE: "take your dog with you"

You could either write to the below address or email us with your opinion at this email address. Thanks in you input on this topic.

DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Tricia Sizemore
West Virginia State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: marv bush [mailto:l.bush@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 1:39 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: "take your dog with you"

I heard on WSAZ this morning that WV is looking at "when visiting parks in WV, you actually can take your dogs for overnight stays at cabin, etc." There was an address where you could write about your thoughts on this. I did not find that address on the WSAZ web site & thought that I would see if it was on your web site. Is there any info. on your site or could I get the address from you. Appreciate!
Lorie Bush

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 2:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets at parks

-----Original Message-----
From: LILLYT1@Nationwide.com [mailto:LILLYT1@Nationwide.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 2:11 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets at parks

THUMBS UP FOR PETS AT PARKS!!!

My pet is part of the family and enjoys going everywhere we go.

Tamara Lilly
Associate Agent

Sam Baker Agency
2919 Robert C. Byrd Dr.
Beckley WV
304-253-7283 Phone
304-254-7283 Fax

Yes

Tricia Sizemore

From: Leigh Taylor [ltaylor@wvdo.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 12:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: allow dogs in parks

State Parks and Forests,

I'm traveling to Oregon and California this summer and I'm amazed that so many parks, forests, bed and breakfeast, hotels, motels and cabins allow pets. I think for West Virginia to move forward in our tourism efforts, allowing pets may be a good first step.

Thanks for bringing this issue around again. Maybe it will go through for the pet owners this time.

Leigh Taylor

Leigh Taylor
Design Coordinator
West Virginia Development Office
304 558 2234 704

Yes

Tricia Sizemore

From: DianeYFox@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 12:31 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We have a (large) show dog/pet. We travel with him at least several times every year. We take him with us everywhere we go. He is housebroken and does not get on furniture. He has stayed in the finest hotels across the country. We have NEVER had a complaint. We have rented a lot of vacation homes with him. You can't even tell he's been there when we leave. We've always been disappointed that we could not take him to State Park cabins. He is part of our family. If he can't stay at a place then we don't stay there. As you can tell we are definitely in favor of WV State Parks allowing him in cabins.
Diane Fox

U.25

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brian Beun [brianbeun@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 1:25 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Greetings,

I support letting pets in cabins at WV state parks. But to be fair to people with allergies to animals, have a set number of cabins available to pet owners.

Thanks,

Brian Beun

Patty Taylor

From: james toler [james_toler@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 9:40 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Cats and Dogs

I certainly do think that people should be allowed to take their pets with them to the state park cabins, afterall, pets to me are like my children and i wouldn't think of going on vacation and leaving them caged for a week or so. Many people are childless and their pets mean everything to them and it has been my experience that people who love pets are normally good god fearing people and people who hate animals are the ones who end up abusing their children and wives and are the same people who end up in prison. People who hate pets should be allowed in the state parks as long as they are on a long leash and muzzled.

Thanks Mr. Pope

Patty Taylor

From: Slaughter, Connie L - MSHA [Slaughter.Connie@DOL.GOV]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 8:36 AM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Pets Allowed at State Parks

I think it is about time that these members of our families be allowed in cabins at State Parks. My brothers and I grew up 2 miles from Babcock State Park. They both were lifeguards at the park, so you can imagine how much time we spent there and the memories we have. We have wanted to plan a Turner reunion at Babcock, but haven't because some of us have dogs that we will not leave in kennels. They are like members of the family. Altering the pet rule at State Parks will allow me and my brothers to return to Babcock and relive some childhood memories. Also, my husband and I would like to visit WV's beautiful parks, but we don't because of our toy poodle, Gabby, who is just like our baby. I sincerely believe that WV is missing out on a lot of revenue because pets are not allowed to stay in cabins at our parks.

I vote YES; please allow pets in cabins at our parks!

Connie Turner Slaughter (nuttallburg@earthlink.net)
HC 65 Box 27-A
Lookout, WV 25868

Patty Taylor

From: Jennifer Thompson [jen4dar@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 9:01 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com

I wanted to express my opinion regarding allowing animals in state parks, especially in cabin areas. I believe animals should be allowed in the cabins. Speaking for myself, my dogs are very clean, probably cleaner than some children. They are house-trained and we have never had any trouble taking them anywhere else. We highly enjoy going to different parks in WV with them; however, we have never been able to enjoy staying overnight because pets are not allowed in the cabins. I think that WV parks would receive more business if they allowed pets in cabin areas. Everywhere we have taken our pets in the past have charged a little extra so that we can bring our pets and some have reimbursed us this "pet fee" after they have inspected the area where we have stayed and found that our pets were very clean and neat. I think most people with pets would be willing to pay a few extra dollars so that they could bring the rest of their "family" with them on vacation. I truly hope that all WV parks are considering allowing pets into at least some of the cabins. I believe this would boost business and I believe also that you will find that most people who bring their pets on vacation have well-trained, well-behaved, and clean animals.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Thompson

7/13/2005

DNR
Capital Complex, Building 3
Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Sirs:

I have been reading with great interest the newspaper articles discussing the pro and cons in reference to the survey about Pets-in- Parks.

I think the comments about pet owners considering their pets as part of the family unit is the basic problem. Pets are still animals that have requirements aside from people. After much discussion, my husband and I are against animals being allowed in the state park residence space. I have found people with pets do not keep their living space the same as a person who does not have pets. This requires more time, energy and manpower to maintain on the part of the park service. And we think the fear of a possible allergic reaction is a VERY GOOD concern of anyone who would consider coming to the parks. We have a beautiful state and everyone should be able to enjoy the State Parks.

We vote: NO PETS in the State Parks.

Thank you for asking for comments.

Sincerely yours,

Constance M. Richards

Constance and Albert Richards
104 Robertson Street
Beckley,WV 25801





DNR
Capital Complex Building 3
Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Pets-In-Parks Survey

25305/L 32

Dear Mr. Pope, 6/28/2005

As members of the VIPP program and big fans of West Virginia in general, I feel we must voice our objection's to the proposal to permit pets in state park cabins. I have been renting cabins at Canaan Valley, and Blackwater Falls for years, and hope to continue to do so, both there and at other parks thru out the state. If pets are allowed I don't believe I will continue to spend my time there as I have in the past for the following reasons.

(1) Cabin cleanliness, is at the best, only performed as well as a short staff and limited budget permit . My wife and I have learned to over look a lot knowing only so much can be done in the short period of time between rentals. We know every one is not as particular as we may be, and others figure they are on vacation and are not going to clean while there, but we invite our children and grandchildren to spend as much time as their schedules allow with us. One Daughter and grandson are allergic to animal dander and dust, therefore my wife and I clean the windows, use a Swiffer on walls and floors, and clean with Lysol as needed, to make their stay as enjoyable as possible. I do not wish to clean up after peoples pets .

(2) My grandchildren are between the ages of 6 and 14 and enjoy the deer and other wildlife they see around the cabins very much, as do the adults. I believe pets in the cabins, as well as tied outside would keep wildlife at bay . This is a big part of the whole experience of staying at many W. V. state parks. Any time I mention Canaan Valley State Park , the first thing I here is , is that the park with all the deer. It is far from the only park with all the deer, just the best known. Will people enjoy the same experience ? I don't believe so.

(3) My favorite part of the state park experience is in the peace , quiet , and solitude you can enjoy, even when surrounded by other families who are there for the same reasons as you. I believe barking dogs would take away immensely from the experience. I believe I would consider staying at home and listening to my neighbors dogs bark for free.

(4) My one daughter has dogs herself , and knowing they are not welcome at the cabins is fine with her. (she boards them while there)

(5) Several of the cabins are carpeted, and animal odor is bound to be worse in these as is hair and accident stains.

(6) Dogs love to chew, cats love to scratch, both mark their territory. I believe the condition of the furniture, carpets, and hardwood floors & woodwork will only go downhill ,adding to an increase in maintenance on an already strained budget.

We hope to continue using the parks as we have, and increase visits as we reach retirement.

Sincerely, Bill & Judy Johnson

101 Delaware Ave
Scottdale , Pa. 15683
bjart@winbeam.com

Bill & Judy Johnson

306 Kent Ave.
Pasadena, MD 21122
May 27, 2005

Dear Mr. Pope,

I would hope you would not consider permitting pets in lodges and cabins. I don't have pets in our home and would not like to stay in rooms where they have been.

There's always going to be some owners who do not follow the rules such as the one I saw many years ago, on the Outer Banks, letting her dog drink from a public water fountain. Don't forget barking and maybe even fleas.

If it's inevitable, why not set aside a couple of cabins for the exclusive use of pet owners.

Respectfully,
Gladys Zade

July 2, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

This is to express our opposition to legislation allowing overnight park guests to keep pets in lodge rooms or cabins.

We oppose this legislation because we believe pets would be likely to bring fleas, ticks, etc., into the rooms and onto furniture and beds.

If this legislation is passed, those guests wishing to bring their pets should be charged an extra fee for extra cleaning which would be needed to remove pet hairs and fleas from the rooms.

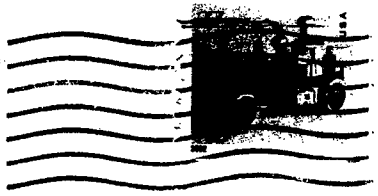
Sincerely,

Tim McClung
Teresa McClung

Tim & Teresa McClung
724 Briant St.
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Mr. and Mrs. Russell W. Johnson
416 Sheffield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601
Chesapeake Bay Foundation

PITTSBURGH PA 152
PM
2 JUL
2005



John R. Pope, Chief
WV State Parks
State Capital Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Attn: Public Comments, Reg. Rats

108 Oakwood Circle
Beaver, WV 25813
June 29, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

Please be advised that we would most definitely like to comment on the proposal to permit overnight guests to keep pets in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms. This issue came up several years ago, and we thought it had been adequately addressed at that time by all concerned. **WE ABSOLUTELY HAVE NO WISH TO SLEEP WITH OTHER FOLK'S CATS AND/OR DOGS; "DON'T DO IT AT HOME" AND CERTAINLY WILL NOT KNOWINGLY PAY TO DO SO AS A PARK GUEST!**

Research has already shown the public just how many types of germs remain on telephones and bedspreads in rented rooms. We have owned pets over the past forty years, and yes, we loved them just as much as anyone else could or does. However, the plain truth is that dogs are dogs and cats are cats, and they do "their own thing" both indoors and outdoors, not to mention the noise factor and possible danger to others! They are animals – and sometimes accompanied by irresponsible owners. How can the State Park Service possibly afford to expose paying guests to such unnecessarily added filth, diseases, and possible health hazards? (It's a shame that the Suites at Pipestem are already given to the **remaining smokers**. They reek of stale smoke and the odor can't be removed – so they are automatically unavailable to us!) Unless the housekeeping staff in each Park is going to vacuum, sanitize, and steam clean the carpet, walls, drapes, and furniture--as well as furnish freshly laundered and sanitized linens, towels, and bedspreads in every room "that you know held a pet," that's exactly what your "non-pet guests" will be forced to endure – ***or not***, **some for health reasons and others by choice.** ***Some people are truly allergic to pet hair and dander, (just as violently as some are to bee stings), and if you subject them to a room previously occupied by pets, who will be responsible for the consequences?***

Our extended families have held their annual one-week family reunions by staying in West Virginia State Parks for the last thirty (30) years, and it's always been the highlight of our summers. We hold so many fond memories of the glorious beauty, nature, varied facilities, fellowship, camaraderie, and many experiences shared over all those years in some of the most majestic and grand environments our State and Country has to offer. There's certainly no shortage of folks who wish to make use of the accommodations (now pet free); as we can attest to just how difficult it has sometimes been to make reservations for our numbers! **Let us please, please keep our West Virginia State Park accommodations dedicated for use by paying pet-free guests.**

Sincerely,

Martha B. Hall

Tom A. Hall

To PLEASE NO PETS DEPT:

No Pets, no fleas, no smelly urine or dry feces, No barking, no slobbers, no dander, no Chewed furniture, no bedspreads Covered with hair,

I do not want to share my room with any kind of pet, animal, etc.

Leave a good thing alone, If it aint broke dont fix it. Be aware of your public & forget about the pets.

Edith Wilfong P.O.Box 102
Bobtown Pa 15315

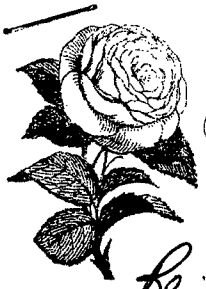
July 02, 2005

Dear Sirs,
This is in regard to animals in our State Parks, Cabins + Lodges
I oppose this as animals can bite, carry diseases and foremost cause allergies on some people. Why disturb security for barking dogs and where will they take animals for their droppings their waste? For someone to step in?
I strongly disagree as their being in lodges. You pay more for these. I wouldn't stay in them, as I do not like sleeping in beds where animals have been. This is gross.
I sincerely hope that Animals will not be allowed.

a Concerned VIPP
Mary Pedraza

100 Blackburn St
Oak Hill, WV 25901

6-25-05



A Special Note—

Re: Pets in Park Cabins —

Please! Pets in cabins will create turmoil for the wildlife in our parks. We go to the parks for peace + quiet, not to hear dogs barking at the deer, raccoons + other wild animals who were there first.

And, I can think of nothing worse than staying in a lodge room where the fleas have remained when the dog left.

Jeanette Alexander

Mrs. Jeanette M. Alexander
1251 Park Ave.
Charleston, WV 25302-2445

NO PETS IN ROOM! We are currently doing the 2nd series Vipp program. We have been visiting lodge + Cabins, I DO NOT & WILL NOT continue if I have to share the room with fleas, vomit, feces, urine on rugs, curtains etc, Pet owners do not care how they leave the room & are VERY inconsiderate, Have a kennel at park, Cleaner & better smelling. We enjoyed our first VIPP program & have seen so many beautiful parks. We have had picnics ruined by barking dogs + can leave the area, please consider that all these years no pets, only when we saw them sneak pets in cabins + I certainly reported it.

PLEASE NO PETS, FLEAS + DISEASE

Edith Whitrod PO Box 102
Bolivar, Pa 15315

Monday, July 4, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

Dear Sir:

The Howard Family votes NO! Dogs, cats or any kind of animals in cabins.

There are people who sleep with their dogs & cats. Speaking for myself I do not want to sleep in a bed where a dog or cat may have pee on the bed or number two! Things like that do happen. If you sleep with your animals that is your business. But, not were the public will sleep.

Sincerely,

The Howard Family (Bill, Sarah & Mary)
745 Lee Street
Barboursville, WV 25504

I oppose allowing Cats & Dogs in State Park Cabins. I go to Watoga State Park every October & am allergic to CAT Hair. I have an idea - Do a survey of each guest who will be staying in a Cabin for the next year and ask them if they would have wanted a Dog or Cat to →

2008 7th Avenue
Parkersburg, WV 26101
July 5, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Sir:

Speaking as a pet owner who never takes the pet on vacations or to State Parks; we do frequent State Parks each year.

I do not believe it in the best interest of State Parks to allow pets in their facilities provided for human occupation.

There is an alternative provision that could be workable for those who travel with pets. The State Park could provide a kennel on the grounds in a separate building that would provide shelter only and an attendant for a fee adequate to cover expenses.

I do not want to use facilities previously occupied by pets. If I bring children or family members I pay for their provisions. I see no reason why pet owners should not do likewise. However, human habitation kept separate completely.

Very truly yours,
James W Burdette

July 5, 2005

Dear Mr. John R. Pope

We are against letting animals in the cabins of lodges.

Thank You
Richard L. Williams
Ada C. Williams

106 Incline Avenue
Wheeling, WV 26003
July 4, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25405

Dear Mr. Pope:

Regarding whether or not pets should be allowed to be housed in state park cabins or lodge rooms. No, not ever! Animals are allowed by some of their keepers to share their beds! When we stay in a motel these days, we have to check the bed over for bed bugs We surely don't want our family to sleep in what may have been an animal stall just a few nights before! Some people don't clean up after their pets at their own home, why would they clean up after them in a park? Dogs, cats, monkeys, or whatever carry fleas, ticks and who knows what else? Why would the park commission even consider putting non pet owners at risk? Think of the liability! If the park service wants to make money, provide a kennel service for the pets and charge the guests for its use.

Yours truly,

Ernest & Marilyn Panovich

Ernest and Marilyn Panovich

July 4th 2005

John R Pope, Cheif
DNR Parks and Recs.
State Capital Complex

Sir:

Please!! Animals around the cabins in our state park. No WAY!

Consider these ideas:

1. Animal feces on grounds. You say owners of pets will clean up. No they won't. Stepping outside a cabin into feces that smells and draws flies is not my idea of pleasure.
2. Fleas left by animals inside the cabins. Animal dander causing an allergic response.
3. Dogs barking at every passer by on the paths and road. Not my idea of pleasure, I can stay home and enjoy barking dogs. Dogs running loose. You say, they must be on a leash. In the ideal world, may be.

We visit the parks in the Spring and late summer or fall every year. Spending considerable time and money. I cannot even imagine the need to allow dogs and cats at Babcock or any other state park.

Any of the above ideas will not be tolerated when one is paying 500.00 - 600.00 dollars a week in a cabin.

Thank You,
GARY WALTERS
Barboursville W.V. 25504

185 Valley Street
Salem, WV 26426
July 7, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
State Capital Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am writing to express our strong opposition to any proposed legislation that would allow pets in State Park cabins and lodge rooms.

Our park system is ourstanding. It remains that way because of the care and attention received. Pets cannot express pride in what we have nor can they obey rules posted and enforced to protect this very valuable asset

My wife and I and family have enjoyed the beauty of West Virginia in many ways for many, many years. The Park System as it is adds greatly to our enjoyment and pride in this great state. We do not think that the introduction of pets into our cabins and lodge rooms would be a welcome event.

Sincerely yours,

C. William Johnson

Ann M. Johnson

June 28, 2005
231 Cabell Heights Road
Beckley, W. V. 25801

Dear Mr Pope

We are writing this letter because we have a great concern regarding allowing pets in cabins at State parks.

Some people believe pets, especially dogs and cats, are members of their family, the same as their children. They are not and God did not intend for them to be. If He had, He would have given them the same brain as humans.

Our main reason for being against allowing pets in cabins is that some people would abide by rules set up and others would allow their pets to run loose, do their "business" where they please and what ever else they wanted. Also, some dogs are bathed, hair clipped and given flea treatments and others are not. We have a strong aversion to sleeping in a bed where there has been a dirty flea ridden dog or cat.

We beg you to please think this out clearly before allowing pets in cabins.

Our family have rented cabins at Bluestone and Pipestem for several years and we would hate to stop.

Sincerely,
Sara Ellison
Jon Ellison

—

John R Pope, Chief
WV State Parks

Sir,

Regarding pets in park cabins and rooms - I must vote against this programs - I love dogs & cats to a certain extent - However, their waste is very offensive, and so very many folks are allergic, I have seen, on a recent camping vacation, The folks, I don't know how they stood it themselves, left the camp-site nasty with "doodles" all around for the poor camp workers to dispose of - that in itself is enough to vote "nay" on this subject.

Sincerely,
Allene Childress

ATTN: Public Comment RE: Pets

They also fed the dogs on the ground - What a mess

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia Park
State Capital Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

My husband and I visit the State Parks several times a year with my parents. We enjoy the parks very much and we always recommend them to our friends.

We received a card asking for our comments regarding the Legistration to allow pets in the State Parks cabins and possibly in lodge rooms. We do have a dog of our own but we don't want to be in one of the lodges where people will have their dogs or cats in the hallways or elevators with other people.

The actions of pets around other people or other strange animals are too unpredictable. We feel that it could only lead to many problems.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Davis
P.O. Box 272
Kistler, WV 25628

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
State Capital Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

My family has been visiting the State Parks for many years and we have always found the parks to be a wonderful place to spend a weekend or our entire vacation. sometimes we stay in one of the lovely lodges and sometimes we stay in a cabin. Although we have always found them to be very neat and clean, I don't feel that pets should be allowed in the cabins or lodges.

Many people are very allergic to dogs and cats. There are no smoking rooms rooms and cabins in the parks and I feel that people with animal allergies should have the same consideration. But there are also people who don't want to be forced to come in close contact with other people's animals.This would be the problem if pets were allowed in the lodges.

We feel that because of the problems that could be caused in these situations, that pets should not be allowed in the lodges and the cabins.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Clay
P.O. Box 2
Lorado, WV 25630

6-27-05

John R. Pope,

I believe that only seeing eye dogs should be allowed in State Parks, Cabins, lodges or Camp grounds.

Robert Malul Higginbotham

27 June 2005

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am writing in response to the proposal to allow pets, specifically dogs, in lodges at the State Parks.

My family loves to vacation at Pipestem State Resort. We have been going at least once a year for the past five years. My children eagerly anticipate our getaways to Pipestem and some of our fondest family memories have happened at Pipestem.

I do not believe that allowing pets in the lodges is a good idea. First and foremost, I believe that it would be a tremendous liability to the State Parks system due to recent tragic events involving dogs biting and mauling children and, in at least one instance, resulting in a little girl's death. I believe the cost of staying at the lodges would go up to cover the cost of liability.

Secondly, being awakened at 2 a.m. by a barking dog would not make for a pleasant vacation. Some actually go on vacation to get away from barking neighborhood dogs. Dogs would also scare the wildlife that many of us come to see, by barking and also chasing after them.

Third, I believe not all owners would be considerate in cleaning up after their pet, which raises sanitary issues.

Fourth, some people have pet allergies. Fleas would also be a problem. Rooms would have to be regularly fumigated.

Please take into consideration all the extra duties the State Park employees would have if this proposal were approved. The cost would be passed on to lodge guests which would result in the loss of those who seek quiet, clean vacation getaways in their home state of wild, wonderful West Virginia.

Cordially,

Sandy Larch

Sandy Larch
218 Walnut Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526



Ms. Genevieve Heatwole
360 N High St.
Romney, WV 26757

6-27-05

John R. Pope, Chief
Attn: Public Comment: Pets
Charleston

Dear Sir:

I prefer that cats, dogs and other pets not be allowed in park cabins and lodge rooms. I do not like to sleep in beds that have been slept in by pets nor walk where these pets have manured. Cedar Lake S.P. has been ruined by the invasion of geese (I realize geese aren't pets) but lets keep our parks for people not pets.

Genevieve Heatwole

Mrs. Dixie L. Sharp
14 Orchard Drive
Buckhannon, West Virginia 26201

June 28, 2005

To John R. Pope
Re: Public Comment about Pets

I think if you decide to allow dogs and cats in cabins and lodge rooms that you should have part of them be pet free because of people like me who have asthma and allergies which make it difficult to stay in a room where pets have been allowed in the beds.

Dixie L. Sharp

KIMBERLY TUCKER
HC 81 BOX 225A
LEWISBURG, WV 24901
304-645-6058

June 14, 2005

Mr. Pope,

I am writing in regards to an article I read in the *WV Daily News* regarding the possibility of pets being allowed to stay in the state park cabins and possible lodge rooms.

I am a pet owner myself, and I would absolutely love to take my dog everywhere I go, however, I, as well as my son and my mother, suffer from allergies. I feel as long as there are the wooden floors as in the cabins, pets may be ok, however, in the lodge rooms where there is carpet, I think it would be huge mistake to allow them in.

The wooden floors can be swept and mopped, the carpet is different. Once pet hair and dander gets in the carpet, as well as urine, it is virtually impossible to get rid of it. No matter how well it was cleaned after each guest, there would be some left behind, that my family would definitely be able to detect as soon as we entered the room.

My family visits numerous state parks each year, Pipestem every year, and frequently Canaan Valley and Watoga, and I can assure you, should pets be allowed to stay in the lodge rooms, we would no longer visit the lodges. I understand pet lovers' desires to have their pets with them, but I feel it would be no different than allowing smoking in public areas again, those few who "need" to smoke, or to have their pets with them, would ruin it for the rest of us who cannot tolerate the pollutants. People have become accustomed to having to make arrangements for pets when traveling and I don't think we should entertain opening a whole "new can of worms". (Exceptions to this of course, would be those assisting the blind, etc.)

Thank you for allowing us to share our comments, and I hope you take into consideration my thoughts and opinions.

Sincerely,

Kim Tucker

Kim Tucker

Post Office Box 171
Alderson, West Virginia 24910
June 27, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Attention: Public Comment
Reference: Pets

Dear: Mr. Pope:

Although I have pets of my own and I know how persons love their pets; I don't feel pets should be allowed in all state park cabins nor in all lodge rooms. In fact, I am not sure I would appreciate sleeping in a bed that had been slept in by the family pet..

I love my pets but not to the point of allowing them to sleep with me; however, many persons do let their pets sleep in bed with them, AND, we know there are many persons who are very, very allergic to animal dander. Should such people have to sleep in a room where a pet had been, it would be as bad as having to breathe second-hand cigarette smoke.

Knowing that people do have allergies some motels allow pets in designated areas just like "smoking" and "non-smoking" rooms; thereby keeping everyone happy. Perhaps, something can be arranged like that in our state parks, with pets allowed in designated areas, but not in other areas, keeping cabins and lodge rooms clean for those with allergies.

Thank you for your consideration in seeking comments from the public before presenting this matter for legislation.

Sincerely yours,

Jolene Kidd Callahan

Jolene Kidd Callahan
and family

2008 7th Avenue
Parkersburg, WV 26101
June 25, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

NO! I do not want pets in the state park cabins or lodge rooms. I expect rooms to be clean.

Can you imagine the problems if I wanted to bring our 100 pound Golden Retriever Collie to stay in a lodge room?

Please do not allow this legislation to pass. Thank you for asking for comments.

Sincerely,

Glenna Burdette

Glenna Burdette

June 27, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capital Complex
Building 3 Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Ruling on Pets in State Park Cabins or Lodges

Dear Mr. Pope:

We are very disappointed to read that there is a consideration to allow pets in the State Park cabins or lodge rooms.

For several years, we have thoroughly enjoyed our time spent in a cabin at Holly River State Park. This was the first year we have noticed dogs along the fishing stream, some on leashes, some not. One was barking continuously. Apparently these dogs were with owners from the campground or on daytrips.

We love the quiet beauty of the Holly River State Park, the cleanliness of the cabins and grounds, and being able to observe the deer, chipmunks, squirrels, and birds as we fish in the stream or sit and read quietly in our chairs. Barking dogs disrupt the quiet, restive atmosphere and certainly disturb the wildlife.

It absolutely will not be appealing to stay in a cabin where people allow their pets to be on the beds or urinate on the furniture and floors. I don't care how "well-trained" these animals are, there will be accidents. Also pet food on the floor will most certainly attract ants, mice, and other pests. Although it may be a rule, there are those rude petowners who refuse to clean up after their pets when they are "walked."

It is our sincere hope that you will continue to provide these pleasant getaways for those of us who prefer the peace and quiet of a woods setting. The campground area can continue to be reserved for those who are unable to leave their pets at home.

Thank you for allowing us to have an input in your consideration of this ruling.

Sincerely,

Garnes Reed Edna Reed

Garnes and Edna Reed
P. O. Box 307
Pratt, WV 25162
(304) 595-6175
GLREED1@aol.com

Dear John Pope,

Thank You for letting us have a say in the legislation re/ Pets (cats & dogs) in the state parks overnight.

We are not in favor of this. People should not bring pets overnight at the state parks.

Dogs & Cats both are a nuisance at the Parks. People should not have to listen to barking dogs or see where owners do not clean up after their Pets -

We vote no on cats & dogs at state Parks

Sincerely,
Blanche McDaniels
&
R. L. McDaniels

Mr. Richard McDaniels
RR 1 Box 104
Philippi, WV 26416-9721

Blanche McDaniels
RR 1 Box 104
Philippi, WV 26416

June 25, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3, room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

I **DO NOT** want pets allowed in lodge rooms or cabins at WV State Parks.

I see it happening anyway, and think it should be better monitored. A lot of people, like myself have allergies or extreme sensitivity to the odors of pets from pet dander,urine or other "accidents" that do happen with pets.

Again, **I VOTE NO to pets at parks**.

Thank you.

William Lewis

William Lewis
933 South Walnut Street
St. Albans, WV 25177

June 25, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3, room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

We **DO NOT** want pets allowed in lodge rooms or cabins at WV State Parks.

It is happening anyway, and it should be better monitored. Many people have allergies or extreme sensitivity to the odors of pets from pet dander,urine or other "accidents" that do happen with pets. My wife is very allergic, but we love to travel and visit state parks.

Again, We **VOTE NO to pets at parks**.

Thank you.

Ernest R. Smith
845 Sweet Acres Drive
St. Albans, WV 25177

and

Belinda J. Smith
845 Sweet Acres Drive
St.Albans, WV 25177

Hello

June 24, 05

I am sending my comments about pets in the state parks.

First pets can cause allergic reactions and sometimes cause transmited disease.

Second nothing upsets me more then stepping in what the doge leaves behind!! Some people pick it up but some do not!!

Third - I go to the state parks for peace and quiet. I hope that dont end!!

Thank You

Dilores Cook

Please do not allow
Pets to stay in rooms +
cabin, thats what people
went to get away from, not
barking dogs + hair or fur
all over the beds. they want
quiet when staying in parks.
I love them (parks) my
husband used to stay in them
a lot before he passed on
I still wish I could stay
in them but I have nobody
to go with.
you have beautiful
parks, please keep it that
way.

as Ever

Mrs Emma Mae Johnson
Box 236
Glasgow WV
25086

June 22, 2005
Box 125
Ansted, WV

Dear Sir:

I do not feel pets (dogs or cats) should be allowed in our state park cabins or lodge rooms. They make a mess and leave their odor and residue no matter how good the room is cleaned. Many people are allergic to the residue that is left in the carpet and air (just like smoking). They also bark and bother others. Many pet owners are not considerate of others.

I would also like to comment on pets in state park camp grounds. Here again pet owners are not considerate of others. Their dogs bark and bother others. They also leave a mess which the owners do not clean up. When they take them for a walk many times they leave their deposits in other camp spots and areas of the camp ground. I couldn't get in the bath house one evening for a large dog. They should be kept in a restricted area and owners should have to clean up.

Thank you for letting me voice my comments.

Sincerely,

Barbara Massey

Barbara Massey

5136 Lone Oak Lane
Cross Lanes, WV 25313
June 21, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
W. Va. State Park
Attn: Public Comment Re: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope:

Although I know pets have become children to many families in our society today, I vote to exclude them from our state park cabins and lodges.

Many hotel chains are now opening their facilities to pets, but they have the freedom to increase their rates to compensate for the increase of wear and tear to their facilities. I don't believe we need to increase the expense of upkeep to our state facilities.

Sincerely,
Anne Gillispie and
Dessie Slater

Brenda G. Vititoe
6933 Merritts Ck. Rd.
Huntington, WV 25702
Home Phone (304)736-0071

June 21, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief WV State Park
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

RE: Pets in State Parks

Dear Mr. Pope,

In answer to your request for public opinion on the subject of pets in state park cabins and or lodges, I would vote against that practice for the following reasons:

a) some people are allergic to pets and it would not be practical to clean carpets, furniture, etc. after each renting of cabin or room

b) some pets are noisy in a strange environment, especially if disturbed at night

c) even the most well trained pets sometimes can have accidents on floors that can very easily stain either materials or wood permanently

d) some people simply do not like animals and would rather not be exposed to them either by being next door to them or staying in a room where they have been

e) if the pet owners choose to go somewhere that the pet is not allowed to be, where would they leave the pet? If left in the cabin or room, it would probably bark or tear up something thinking it was abandoned in an unfamiliar surrounding which would be very bad and could cost the owner money if replacing items were an issue

I used to have inside pets and loved them very much, but when we went on vacation, I boarded my pets in a kennel for safekeeping and never had a problem. It seems to me that to find a suitable place to leave the pets, whether with a friend, family member or kennel, would make a better all around worry-free vacation for the pet owners.

That is my opinion on this matter. I strongly urge you to give this matter much thought before taking action. Personally, it probably would not affect my staying at our parks, but the same may not be true for everyone. Thank you for asking my opinion.

Sincerely,

Brenda G. Vititoe

. Brenda G. Vititoe

June 21, 2005

John R Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park

Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets

As VIPP'ers we have done a lot of traveling in our beautiful state as well as cross country.

We do not feel pets have a place in park cabins or lodge rooms. We have had camping experiences that were less than fun with barking dogs. Not all pet persons are thoughtful.

We appreciate your thoughtfulness in asking our comments.

Sincerely,

Bob & Carolee Daniell
HC69 Box 47
Middlebourne, WV 26149

Bob + Carolee

Route 2, Box 34
Alderson, WV 24910
June 20, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex, Bldg. 3, Rm. 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

We read in the newspaper of a proposal for a rule change that would permit pets in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

The two of us are STRONGLY OPPOSED to any rule change that would allow this.

Allergies, and especially to insect bites are our primary reasons of opposition. Possible flea, ticks, and lice infections could result, and even other insects drawn to animals in a park setting.

Even a rule change in part being allowed, will cause us to demand pet-free accomodations, or no more business from us.

Sincerely yours,

Betty P. Johnson

James E. Johnson

Robert L. Bosley 6/20/05

JOHN R. POPE
DEAR SIR:
ALL ANIMALS HAVE VARMITS THAT LIVE ON THEM. IF THE PARK SERVICE IS PREPARED TO CLEAN ENOUGH SO THAT NONE OF THESE VARMITS ARE LEFT BEHIND WHEN THE PEOPLE LEAVE, I STILL WOULD NOT AGREE TO PETS RUNNING ABOUT OUR PARKS. WHAT WOULD BE THE POINT? THE VARMITS THAT LIVE ON US ARE BAD ENOUGH. ANOTHER CONSIDERATION IS BEING ATTACKED BY A DOG OR CAT WHOSE OWNER IS LESS THAN ABLE TO CONTROL THE ANIMAL. WHAT IF THE ANIMAL HAS A MEDICAL PROBLEM THAT IS NOT OBVIOUS?

AUDREY E. NAPIER AND ROBERT L. BOSLEY VOTE FOR NO PETS AT OUR STATE PARKS.

Audrey E Napier

Robert L. Bosley

6/20/05

Mr. John R. Pope,

Regarding the issue of permitting pets to stay in park cabins and lodge rooms. I am not in favor of it. For many years I have spent much time at our state parks. I have visited 32 of them and hope to continue to do so. Many times I have seen evidence of cats or dogs having been in the park or in the cabin I was in. For the past several years I have had a cabin rented twice a year — and since the accessible cabins have been built, myself and eight or more elderly (old-) ladies have been at Blackwater. We do not like to think of cats & dogs having been on the furniture & on the beds.

Thank you —

Dorothy Tenney

I am 85½ years old & hope I will be able to get to the parks & forests I have not yet visited.

To John Pope:

In response to the requested Comments for pets in Cabins and/or Lodge.

I am against the policy of pets in those areas because:

1. all owners don't keep pets clean areas.
2. Flea ticks etc.
3. I have been bitten by a family pet which would not harm anyone

I also know some families care for their pets and think of them as their children.

Harold G. Higginbotham

P.S. I requested years ago to have Osie's name removed from the list and did receive a Sympathy Card. She died in 2000.

June 20 - 05

Dear Mr. Pope -

I am not in favor of pets being allowed in State Park Cabins & Lodge Rooms. I don't want to sleep where fleas & pet hairs are in the carpet.

I love Animals & pets - but don't think they should be allowed in state park lodging.

Thank you,

Kenneth Doss & Wife - Anita

06-20-05

Dear Mr. Poe,

In response to your request concerning pets in the State Park Cabin & Lodge rooms. I am against such measures because of health & sanitation reasons.

I think that pets are nice to have (and we have them) but please not in the Cabins & Lodge rooms. What an ordeal to clean up after they are gone & who wants to step in "dog poo" around the area.

I have been camping in the State Parks or Forests each year since 1986 & Let's Keep them clean!!

Thanks for your Consideration.

Julie Wright

Rt. 1, Box 53
Ravenswood, WV 26164
June 18, 2005

John R. Pope, Cdy WV St. Pks.
Building 3, Rm. 713
Charleston, WV 25305

RE: Pets

Dear Sir,

My wife and I are VIPPs and we usually spend at least 2 weekends ~~per~~ year in cabins and at least 1 weekend at a lodge. I know many people love their pets and want to bring them to the State Parks including my own mother-in-law. (dog)

However, I am highly allergic to cats, if I get near cat hair my eyes swell shut, itch, and I breakout in hives! I know you can't tell people their pets must be outside because then barking dogs destrub others.

I hope you leave the parks as no pets allowed!

Thank you for the opportunity to express my feelings on this subject.

Sincerely,
Danny & Tonzi Byers

Dorothy A. & Charles R. Chambers
7912 Ardmore Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21234-5527
Phone (410) 661-0261

19 June 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 23505

Thank You for the card inviting our comment on the proposal to allow Pets (Dogs or Cats) to be kept by Guests in the State Park Cabins and possibly in Lodge Rooms. We firmly **OPPOSE** the allowing of this privilege to Guests.

Although we are presently residents of Maryland, I (Charles) was born and raised in Marion County, West Virginia and graduated from Mannington High School in 1940 and then left the State to volunteer in the US Army Air Corp for service during WW II. My Military Service and Civilian Business Careers were such that I never returned to a residency in West Virginia but my family (5) have been frequent visitors to W. Va. using the State Park Camping Facilities and in recent years the State Park Lodges. Although now in our 'Eighties', we still look forward to returning for frequent visits **BUT** should the proposed change be forthcoming, we will definitely have to reconsider our continued use of State Park Lodges and Cabins.

We, as a family, had pet dogs through out the years until our children were grown and we are certainly familiar with all the attendant conditions with keeping a pet in living facilities and all the corrective and clean up activities associated therewith, if the persons involved are totally responsible. We also recognize all the negative conditions that can generate from irresponsible pet care and management. We would not want to blindly reserve use of Lodgings, knowing that pets could have been housed there by previous Guests.

We sincerely hope the suggested **Pet Privilege is not initiated** because we believe it would impose an impossible task on the State Park Management to guarantee the Cleanliness an Quality of Housing we presently know as West Virginia State Park Facilities.

Respectfully yours,

Charles R. Chambers

Charles R. Chambers
Lt.Col. USAF Retired

Members W.VA. VIPP Group

June 18, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

ATTENTION: PUBLIC COMMENT re: PETS

We are very proud of our State Parks and frequent them as much as possible. We also tell our out-of-state friends and relatives about our State Parks.

We are OPPOSED to possible legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms. Our reasons are:

1. Sanitary conditions.
   (Some people let pets on furniture, including beds. If furniture and/or carpet is soiled by pets, the soil and odor is almost impossible to remove.)

2. Some people are allergic to dogs and cats.
   (Staying in a cabin or lodge room where there has been a dog or cat could present a serious reaction)

3. Noise.
   (Seldon is a dog or cat quiet for a long period of time)

4. Fleas.

If it is necessary for a guest to have a seeing-eye dog, there should be certain rooms specified for that person. There should also be a specified area for walking the dog.

We have stayed at out-of-state campgrounds that have specified camping sites for persons with pets. We think this is a good idea.

Sincerely,

Charles & Glenna Low
2901 - 25th St.
Parkersburg, WV 26104

HC 65, Box 24A
Ansted, WV 25812
June 17, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
WV State Parks
Attn: Public Comment Re: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg. 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Chief Pope;

My remarks may be a bit prejudiced, as I have not owned pets for several years since my children grew up and left home. Even when we did have pets, (you name it, we've had it at one time or another!) we did not take them along when we traveled. I realize that some people consider pets as a family member, but they never reached this status with me.

I really feel that letting pets in lodge rooms is "opening up a real can of worms." So many people, especially young children, are allergic to animal dander etc.-would you set aside certain rooms to be used? Treat after each usage? What?

It might be more reasonable to allow animals in cabins as they have no carpeting and it would be easier to eliminate traces of their presence. Even here, would you charge a deposit to cover "accidents", damage to furnishings etc.?

In my opinion, it's probably best to leave the current "no pets" policy in place. In the long run, any gain in usage by pet owners will be lost in repairs, extra cleaning etc.

Sincerely,

Ann Z. Skaggs

Ann Z. Skaggs

June 17-2005

West Virginia Parks
Comments RE; Pets

I say NO to Pets in the Parks which are sanctuaries for Wildlife. I know there is a leash law which cannot be enforced in urban area. Park Service certainly does not have enough Personnel. Pets in our Parks would be a MISFIT

Flossie Kenney

Charles E. & Lois A. Lumm
12922 Cathedral Avenue
Hagerstown, MD 21742-2905

June 16, 2005

West Virginia State Parks
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capital Complex-Bldg. 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

RE: Legislation to Allow Pets in State Park cabins/lodges

Dear Mr. Pope:

We received your card asking for comments regarding proposed legislation that would allow overnight guests to keep pets in state cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

We do not ordinarily stay in park cabins but have been in them in the past. We do stay in your lodges several times each year and we are members of your VIPP program. We have always enjoyed staying in your state lodges and have found them to be clean and to have a clean and fresh odor. We would find it very offensive to have to stay in rooms or to eat in rooms where pets were permitted and we strongly urge you to oppose this legislation.

We have many friends who have pets and even though they are intelligent and well-to-do persons, there is a smell of pets in their houses and they have pet hair on their furniture. When we go out with these persons, they usually have pet hair on their clothes as do we when we visit them. I work with the public in a state agency and I find that many persons who I meet and who have pets, have pet hair on their clothes.

I addition, pets know and are familiar with their owners. However, when approached by strangers, even just walking by them, they sometimes become very aggressive and at times bite strangers. My wife and I have been bitten by dogs while we are out walking, even though we try to keep out of their way and walk on other sides of the street. We find that people who have pets do not realize that even though their pets are very friendly to them, they aren't always friendly to strangers. Owners seem to ignore their pet barking, so how would you control barking in rooms at night when others want a quiet environment to sleep in???

PLEASE, oppose this legislation. If this proposal would become law, we would probably not stay overnight at your lodges. Thank you for your consideration.

Cordially,

Charles E. Lumm

June 16, 2005

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
ATTN: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

ATTN: Public Comment RE: Pets

Dear Mr. Pope:

We received the postcard regarding pets being allowed in the state park cabins. We are very much against this.

We know that many people are pet owners and also we know that they do not always 'clean up' after their animals. Even though the staff at the WV lodges and cabins do an excellent job of keeping things clean, it is impossible to rid areas completely of pet dander and sometimes odors.

If pets are permitted in cabins, then PLEASE keep certain cabins for pets and keep some pet free. We rent on the basis of smoke free and pet free in lodges, hotels and cabins when we travel in the state and out of state due to health problems.

We definitely vote NO!!!

Jim and Dotty OBerg - VIPP
998 Rainey Hill Road
New Cumberland, WV 26047

Chief John R Pope: 6-16-05

We think it would be terrible to allow pets in cabins, rooms, or on grounds.

We love WV Parks & have stayed in many & hope to again.

Please don't allow legislation for this. We hope it doesn't pass.

Thanks.

Lloyd & Lucille Nelson
106 Honeysuckle Lane
Huntington, WV 25701
304 / 523-3911

P.S. We both have our PJP jackets!!!

June 16

We are against
Pets in State Park cabins &
lodge Rooms.
You Must think of the people
with Allergies - also pets
can be destructive - they shed
& leave a mess that way
& can Have accidents that
leave a bad odor -
I do not want to stay in
a room where pets have
been & My Children have
Allergies - one daughter will
sneeze & eyes run if a cat
Has been around days before
So please !! No Pets !!

Corenna & Jack Ambrose



George Scholl
1002 43rd St
Vienna, WV 26105
June 15, 2005

Tricia



John R Pope, Chief
WV State Park
ATTN: Public Comment RE: PETS
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

My wife and I are campers and therefore we do not stay in the state park cabins and lodges. However, we feel that if the rules for keeping pets quiet and cleaning up after them are not enforced any better in the cabins and lodges than they are in the campgrounds, this would be a VERY big mistake. You also need to think about the rooms becoming infested with fleas!

Therefore, we are opposed to this legislation.

Sincerely,

George Scholl Virginia Scholl

George and Virginia Scholl

RR5 Box 370
Grafton WV 26354
June 15, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
attn: Public Comment Re: pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg 3 Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2005
PARKS & RECREATION

John R Pope RE: PETS

I think legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs/cats) in state park cabins or lodge rooms would be a big mistake. Many persons are allergic to these pets and would cease to remain customers or guests of parks.

Check the hotel/motels that restrict this and they will give you many reasons to keep the restrictions as they are now. Most people like animals/pets but don't enjoy to live with them or be in close environments where the pets have been living.

Sincerely,
Cecelia A Hood

Pets in State Parks –

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2005
PARKS & RECREATION
CHIEF'S OFFICE

Bluefield, WV – June 15, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Compled
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Mr, Pope,

I am very much opposed to allowing Pets in State Parks.

I use State Park Campgrounds more than I do Park Cabins and Lodge Rooms and I get very upset when I camp where someone has tied up their dog to the table and there is mess all around.

William H Baldwin Jr

William H. Baldwin, Jr
3604 Meadow Street
Bluefield, WV 24701
Phone: (304) 325-9506

PS: I have visited State Parks in other States that do not permit Pets and I have asked about any complaints they have received on this rule and they say they get 10 to 1 more complements than complaints.

Tricia 6-15-2005

John,

This note is to reply to your question about pets in cabins in our State Parks.

My wife and I don't have pets in our house and we don't want to sleep in a bedroom in our State Parks that a dog or cat has been in.

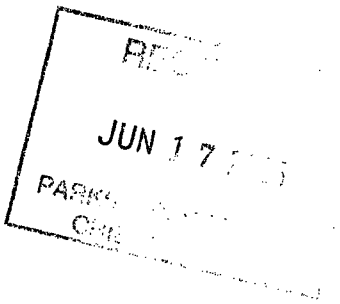
Please don't let this happen

Thanks
Robert L. Taylor
Joetta J. Taylor

RECEIVED
JUN 17 2005
PARKS & RECREATION
CHIEF'S OFFICE

June 15, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305



Re: Public Comment-Pets

Mr. Pope:

My husband and I are opposed to allowing pets to stay at our state parks in cabins or lodge rooms. I wrote a letter the last time this came up and was pleased that the legislation did not pass. We had heard this was coming up again but since life is so hectic it had slipped my mind until we got the card today. Thanks for the reminder. I suppose we received it because we are trying to complete the VIPP program.

We have stayed at cabins at Blackwater, Babcock and at Twin Falls several times. At Babcock especially the cabins seem so remote, but that is an illusion. The rhododendron is so thick you think you are isolated but there are other cabins a short distance away. We don't have neighbors that are as close as these cabins. I can't imagine going to one of these cabins to get away from it all and have to listen to a yippy dog, or maybe even a growling one or step over dog dodo. Are you going to have your employees go around after checkout to pick up dog dodo? This could be a big problem-huge dogs seem to be the norm nowadays. Of course, we are opposed to cats too. You have enough problems cleaning up after humans.

I am sure this will be brought up again and again until it is passed. The plea being, "We need to bring the family dog with us". I believe it is couples who have dogs instead of children who are whining the most. If they don't have children they can certainly afford to put their pet in a kennel.

If pets are allowed in the cabins we certainly will not rent one again. You even mention lodge rooms. We're not talking Chihuahuas anymore. It's Dobermans, Rottweilers, Labradors and Pit bulls. Imagine them in the hallways. Well, now I see the plan. You threaten to allow them in the lodges so that we will say, "Go ahead and let them have the cabins, but keep them out of the lodges!"

Maybe we can get the rest of our cards stamped before the dogs take over.

Sincerely,
Maxine Landfried
Maxine Landfried
2443 Dudden Fork Road
Kenna, WV 25248

June 14, 2005

John R Pope

In regard to the legislation to allow pets in State Park Cabins.

Both myself and my husband do not want pets in cabins - rooms. Think of people who have allergies. A cabin cannot be cleaned good enough to remove pet dander, and hair.

Yes we are cat and dog lovers - but outside pets.

Please don't punish your guests with cat and dog - leftovers.

Thank you

James & Nancy LaFon
Rt. 2 Box 115
Ronceverte, WV. 24970

Re: Legislation to allow pets in state Park lodges & Cabins -

Bad idea - it would increase maintenance costs - it could create health problems - flea, mange, etc. Many people sleep w/ their pets - many others are allergic to pet hair - Some pets are destructive, noisy, incontinent, aggressive, maladorous -

Bad idea Bad idea Bad idea

Betty Lein
Volga, WV
VI 26

the type of dog especially being brought in. You could have anything from a teacup size poodle to pit bulls to the largest great danes. Everyone says their dogs don't bite or attack - but you can never be to sure.

(4) also the responsibility the park would have for the above mentioned liabilities. What happens if the animal is lost, run over or etc.? In this case legally state I believe you are opening up a can of worms that doesn't need to be opened.

Sincerely
Valerie Long
405 Greenwood Street
Weirton, West Virginia
26062

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am <u>not</u> in favor of allowing animals (dogs, cats, or etc.) in the cabins or rooms at any of the West Virginia State Parks.

There are several reasons for my anti animal statement.

(1) hazardous to people with allergies
(2) the hazard of fleas and ticks - costing the taxpayer more money to rid the rooms and cabins of these pests
(3) the danger of the dogs harming small children or adults. (a way to control

June 5, 2005

PO Box 123
Hallowell, ME 04347

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

As a pet owner I'd vote not to have pets, other than service animals, allowed in West Virginia Park Cabins and Lodges. I have a couple of reasons

Reason 1 – You can't tell a book by its cover. Here comes my current creature now. He is an affectionate houndish senior from the local humane society - Elroy, the bad boy dog. He earned the reputation because when he is left alone he is not a happy camper! He dug a hole in the middle of our couch! Other than that, he is great. You would never know he can go bad by looking at him. He is clean, bugless, but a bit demented when flying solo. We always hide the extra car keys when we leave home just in case. Thanks God he doesn't have opposable thumbs!

If a private motel owner wishes to allow pets, more power to them! We appreciate that option. State parks, however, have to serve all people. When we travel, Elroy stays in the car when we're out, not in the room alone. He seems to handle that better, but that is not a workable strategy during the day. And he has a lonesome howl when in solitary confinement.

Reason 2 – Not all creatures, human and otherwise, are as clean as Elroy. He has good hygiene habits, but not all animals do and they all react differently under stress. Elroy, for example, has a problem with bladder control when visiting the vet's office. Who knows? He might react the same way to a park ranger!

Bonus reason:

Some folks are very allergic to pet dander and hair. An acquaintance, a real animal lover, has a severe asthmatic reaction in just a few minutes when exposed to cat hair. The reaction could be a real bummer when on vacation in a remote location, say Davis or Cass, with limited medical service.

Thanks for your attention to my note.

Bob McIntire

Davy Ewin
Rt 1 BOX 228
Leon, WV 25123

Dear Mr. Pope

I would like to comment on allowing pets in state park lodging. I think that not allowing pets in lodging may cost some business but if you start allowing pets in park lodging it will cost a lot more business.

I love staying at the state parks, but if you start pets in park lodgings, then I will not be back. I also know a lot of other people who feel the same way.

Thank You
Davy Ewin

June 3. 2005

Division of Natural Resources,

Chief John R. Pope, to respone to Public Commit. to Chg. the no pet Rule to let pets stay Cabins. I'm asking you, Please don't Chg. the Rules. Who wants to stay in a Cabin where dogs have been staying. If folks think they have to take dog to mess up everything let them stay at Home. You can make it without the dog lovers & all that come with the dogs.

Oscar Hawks

RE: PETS IN CABINS

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Pinter
103 CONNOR ST. BECKLEY, WV 25801

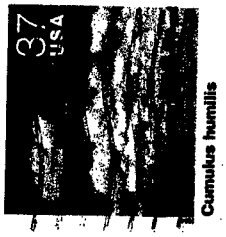
June 3, 2005

Dear Mr. Pope

Over the years my wife and I have found it most enjoyable to visit a number of our state parks. Before our children were grown we often used the camping facilities as we are now older we have considered staying in a cabin. However, we are not in favor of visitors bringing their pets to stay with them in the cabins. Separate facilities can be provided to house their pets.

Sincerely
J. K. Pinter

"America is too great for small dreams."
Ronald Reagan



Dr. & Mrs. Joseph K. Pinter
103 Connor St.
Beckley, WV 25801



Dr. John R. Pope
DNR Parks and Recreation
c/o State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

25305/0009

June 3, 05

Dept of Natural Resources.
Parks + Recreation Division

Just saw the news alert on TV.
about changing the rule on allowing
people to bring their pets as guest in the
State Lodges + Cabins — Please, Please
don't allow them in (the pets) Lodges -
the Cabins maybe - but not the
Lodges. We love our State parks and
enjoyed the Lodges over the years. I do
not like to go in a room where people
have had their dogs. Just face the
facts some people are clean with
their pets - others are not — Our
family has pets, but we do not take
them where other people stay - and sleep.

Thank You.
Helen L Duncan
S. Ches. WV

Our family enjoys the State Parks for
Hiking + Skiing — just for the pure
beauty + Scenery - don't mess it up!!

DANIEL REALTY INVESTMENTS INC.

Carl R. Daniel III, President

6/2/05

As per the Article in the Beckley Paper 6/2/05, I vote NO ON pets in State Parks. Not only for the REASONS mentioned in that Article, but also because of many owners disregard for the "leash Law".

Carl Daniel

114 Wandering Lane ~ Beaver, WV 25813 ~ Phone & Fax 304-763-2193
Cell Phone 304-228-9193

Trisha

6-2-05

Dear Sir,

Please do Not let dogs + wen Cats take over our parks. Owners do Not keep the leash on. (Because their Dog won't bite). They have teeth, they will bite. Small childred can Not play safely for dogs fighting, licking each other, running They will run over Childred + old people. (Yes, I have seen this) Please help us + Not allow Dogs in our parks!

Thank you

D.K. Pennington

Dear Sirs

My family has stayed at many of West Virginia's state parks. In the cabins and in the lodge rooms. We are against allowing pets in either cabins or lodge rooms for the folling reasons:

pets leave a smell in a room, anyone with allergies can tell they have been there. If a pet "goes" in a room other than replacing the carpet, the smell will never come out no matter what you use.

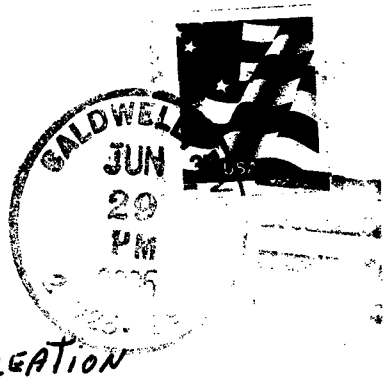
pets make noises. People don't want to be woken up by barking dogs. Can you imagine having a barking dog in a lodge room.

Cats which are not declawed will strach and ruin the carpet, walls + furniture, spreads etc.

We has a dog and would not think of bringing him to an overnight at any state park.

The state parks are for the people to enjoy, not for pets to destroy and disrupt.

Thank you
Barbara and Ed
Gibson
Caldwell WV
formally of Frederick MD



John R. Pope
CHIEF DNR PARKS AND RECREATION
STATE CAPITOL COMPLEX
Building 3 Rm 713
CHARLESTON WV 25305

25305/0003

Russell & Eileen Johnson
416 Sheffield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601

July 2, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
State Capital Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Public Comments regarding Pets

Via US Mail and e-mail

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal to introduce legislation that would allow pets in State Park cabins and lodge rooms. I am a native West Virginian and have had the pleasure of enjoying the State Parks for over 40 years. My wife and I have been loyal visitors to the State Parks over the years and have enjoyed both cabins and lodge rooms at these parks. We are also members of the VIPP group and look forward to continuing with our regular visits.

We are members of the Holly River State Park Foundation and our contributions to that organization support continuing improvements at the park and to the cabins. I don't want those improvements to be placed at risk because of an ill advised decision to allow pets in the cabins.

I believe that allowing pets in the cabins is a bad idea. My wife and I suffer from allergies and I am certain that pet dander would linger in the cabins and cause discomfort. I am certain that other guests with allergies would voice the same objection.

It is likely that guests would allow their pets to sleep or lie on the furniture, particularly the beds. I know it is not presently the practice of the park staff to launder the bedspreads after every guest. If pets were allowed, the practice of laundering the bedspread after each guest would become a necessity. This would hold true for the lodge rooms as well, thereby increasing the cleaning and maintenance costs to the State and necessitating the replacement of bedspreads and other furniture more often.

Pets in the cabins would greatly increase the risk that the cabins would become infested with fleas or ticks. Either pest would pose health problems for the guests or the park staff and may require the replacement of mattresses.

With pets in the cabins, I would have concerns about guests feeding their pets using the cabin china. The park cabins do not have dishwashers and I know from my visits that

some of the previous guests in our cabins are lax in their dishwashing skills. I find it very unappealing to think about eating off of a plate after the dog at a previous visit licked that same plate clean. For guests to be certain that their dishware is clean, it would be necessary for each new set of guests to completely wash and dry all of the dishes and cookware before the first use, thereby diminishing the enjoyment of their stay.

I have spoken with the housekeepers at some parks and know from their firsthand accounts that some of the guests do not take care of the cabins. I am told that some guests leave the cabins quite filthy and cause extra work on the part of the staff to clean them up. If guests will do such things to a cabin when there are only people there, I shudder to think what may occur if they bring their pet with them. Cleaning up after the pets would require more time on the part of the staff and may necessitate hiring additional staff to handle the chore.

Of particular concern is the idea of guests bringing their hunting dogs to the rustic cabins at Seneca and Kumbrabow. I fear the damage that could be caused by these dogs could be considerable.

I can see no good that would come from approving this proposed legislation. It would unquestionably drive up the cost of cleaning and maintaining the cabins and lodge rooms and those added costs translate into higher rental rates for all guests. Damage to the cabins and rooms would result, plus the lingering dander and dirt would cause discomfort to subsequent guests. Without question, pets in the cabins would reduce the enjoyment that many of the guests experience at the parks.

It is my belief that the vast majority of guests would prefer not to have pets in the cabins. It is my sincere hope that this proposed legislation is not approved nor supported by the State Park system. I believe West Virginia has the finest State Park system in the nation and an ill-advised decision to allow pets in the lodge rooms and cabins will diminish the appeal of the State Parks to me, my wife and certainly many others.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment and I will appreciate your support.

Very Truly Yours,

Russell W. Johnson

Eileen B. Johnson

June 16, 2005

My Comments:

Pets in cabins and/or lodge rooms?

First off — please ... No Cats!!

I personally, like cats, and have owned several, so I know how unpredictable they can be, and once they leave their aroma (by spraying or other) it is an open natural temptation and invitation for future feline guests to do likewise.

Also, many people are severely allergic to cats, and I can soon detect, much to their own discomfort, where a cat has been present, where most of us perhaps could not.

Cat odor is next to impossible to eliminate once it becomes embedded in certain fabrics or woods.

The above to say — please ... No Cats!!

Now, Dogs. Use your own good judgment or listen to the voices of other folk here. I'd prefer limitations, and would recommend some guide lines, along with some appropiate questions to be asked & answered then considered, before throwing open any doors. For example: How many dogs? (no pit bulls or other dogs of

questionable personalities or instincts)
Dwhat size? not 5 German Shepherds
or 3 St. Bernards in one room or
cabin) are they house trained etc
etc? Barker? (who wants to
listen to some dog barking all
day and/or all night? Not me) I'd
pay for peace and quiet, but
not for the aggravation of
a barkin or yipping dog.)
Last but not least concern — who
is to furnish the doggie-do bags
and shovels, or police the grounds
for do-left-behind?
I hope you will give the
proposal serious consideration on
all counts & then base your
decision with the good of the
publics in mind. Most people
are responsible for their pets and
the behavior problems that might
arise, but for those aren't, others
will pay. Good luck!
I hope my 2¢ worth will let
you know you are appreciated for
caring about both pets and people
and our beautiful parks, cabins and lodges.
Thank you!
Sincerely,
Janette McClure
Brandview WV

June 3, '05

Dear Mr. Lape,

Regarding the article in The Charleston Gazette, Friday June 3, '05, DNR Seeks Public Opinion concerning pets in state park lodges.

Pets should not be allowed in lodges. Perhaps you could build a kennal for lodging guest. Charge boarding fee. Allow owner to have their pets on ~~during~~ outings where it is sensible.

People with allergies are affected by animal dander and the residue does collect on rugs, furniture, etc.

Cabin rental - people should be allowed to bring their pets. A $50.00 fee should be charged. Provide surgical gloves - ziplock bags and require they clean up the defecate left by pets.

Unfortunately, not everyone gives their pets flea pills so you have

that problem to contend with. An infestation of fleas is a menace and an expense to eliminate. Fumigation is inconvenient because of the turnover on rental season. Out at noon or by 5:PM does not allow ample time to exterminate.

Speculation says the mass majority that travel can afford flea pills and therefore give them to their pets. That pares down that inconvenience.

Lodges - NO
CABINS - YES

Pets do not need to be locked up in a room all day.

Good Luck folks,
My input for
what it is worth.

Sincerely
Stashia Pastek
DOG OWNER

Bitten Kid
V
West Virginia State Parks

Civil Action No. 9:99CV999
(Horrible, Stamp)

Damage $1,000,000.~~00~~, one million dollars

Subpoena Questions
A. Dog Owner
Question 1. Was you allowed to have a dog stay at the State park cabin with you.? Answer yes
Question 2. Did you let your dog out of the cabin? Answer: yes, to go to the restroom, I didn't expect a Kid to be walking at 12:00 PM

B. West Virginia State Parks Administration
Question 1. Did you allow the dog owner that bit the child to have a dog stay in the cabin Answer: yes
Question 2. If Children want to look for "night nature life" in the woods are they allowed

Dear John I walked the North Bend Trail, I was still in Parkerburg, a huge red collie like dog walked out on to the trail, I thought all my God, another collie like dog walked out on to the trail. I was terrify, and then I heard a barking dog, it wanted to get me. I honesty think I could have kicked, a 50 yards field-goal with it, I think the red collie like dogs would have got the barking dog, if it would have got close to me. I love dogs, but if you get a dog, that bite a Kid, West Virginia State Parks might be responsible for damages, for endangereing childrens lives, good luck what ever you decide. In Jesus Christ and God I love you Kenny Crow

Dear John Pope, June 17, 2005

Received your post card for comments regarding allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms. Whatever are they thinking? Don't they realize the damage that can be done to your beautiful cabins? Woodwork clawed up, furniture torn, hair and fleas all over? Barking dogs and poop all over outside.

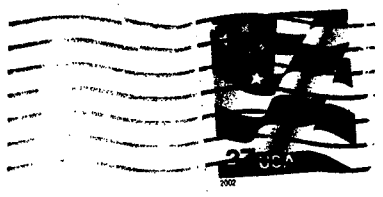
We have been coming to your parks since 1990, either alone, or with 2 other couples. We have been to Babcock, Cass, Watoga, Pipe Stem, Tygart Lake, We had reservations for North Bend this spring but I ended up in the hospital. Our friends went and had a great time for the Murder Mystery in the lodge and cabins. We hoped to go back next spring.

We only go to the better motels that don't allow pets and also cabins and lodges.

Please inform me if pets will be allowed because we

T Frank Elizabeth Twaroski
9342 Kuhl Rd
Erie, PA 16510-5146

ERIE PA 165
DM
27 JUN
2002



John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capital Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

25305/3393

won't be coming back. We'll just go to Ohio, Pa. and Kentucky. Even though we really love West Va.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Frank and Elizabeth Twaroski

P.S. I hope your parks don't go to the Dogs!

T Frank Elizabeth Twaroski
9342 Kuhl Rd
Erie, PA 16510-5146

Note cards cou
4982 Pacific Avenue, Erie, Pennsylvania, 16506, tcon@erie.net
Grape watercolor by House of Potter, North East, Pennsylvania

June 15, 2005

Mary Alice Merryman
320 High St
Summersville, WV 26651
304-872-6600

Dear Mr. Pope,

This letter is in response to your request, via postcard, concerning possible legislation that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms.

Our opinion - my husband's and my own - is a very strong NO!

We love animals and own several pets. And as fond as we have been of our cats and dogs, we've never taken them on vacation. Our times to be "away" from the routine of our workday week are so precious and rare, that we like to sever all ties to the repetitious and mundane daily chores, including caring for the pets. We rarely stay in motels, and so far have not been afforded the luxury of enjoying one of our state's park cabins. If I ever get that privilege, my vacation would be spoiled by hearing puppies whining, or barking in my neighbor's cabin through the night.

And the safety factor must be considered. I would think you would have to require each

and every guest with a pet to show written documents from a vet to prove that the pet has had their rabies shots, and are free of [redacted] diseases that could be passed to humans. Just as I would not pay to reserve a motel room in the smoking section, I also would not want to rent a cabin that smelled like kitty litter. Wouldn't the clean-up after a pet stay eventually force you to increase your rates? That increase for an unnecessary inconvenience would be passed on to the vacationers who don't bring their pets along. And what about fleas?

I expect you will get more responses from pet owners who would celebrate the chance to take Fluffy and Spot to Babcock State Park. My guess is that these same folks suffer separation anxiety and probably consider their pets to have family status equal or greater than a child's. That is why we often see dogs locked in cars — freezing in the winter or suffocating in summer.

Have you ever hiked a trail in Watoga St. Park and stepped in dog poo? I have. I know many vacationers take pets on day trips, and I doubt you could make them stop. But I consider folks who drag their pets along everywhere they go to be selfish and thoughtless.

Because the humans aren't getting their full measure of peace and quiet, and relaxation, and relief from stress if they also have to consider the constant needs of their pet.

Let's face it. We should go to a state park - especially a state park in West Virginia - to soak up the sights, smells, and beauty of our marvelous state. Not wet dog fur.

Who would be responsible for a dog who broke off his leash and chased a young child? Who is to blame if I wake up sneezing and wheezing from pet dander because I am allergic to the cat who slept in my bed before I arrived? Heaven forbid that my dog would come across a skunk and bring the smell into my cabin.

Love your pet, but leave them home! They would be happier in their own familiar environment. Pets don't enjoy sight seeing. Let the neighborhood teenagers earn some cash "pet sitting" while you revive and refresh yourself in our wild and wonderful State Parks!

Sincerely,
David & Mary Alice
Merryman

P.S. ↓

I forgot to add this:

I've just returned from a trip to Richmond, VA to see my mother in the hospital. My sister and I shared a motel room in a very nice "chain" motel. At the registration desk was a large, colorful sign that said (paraphrase)

"We welcome you and your pet. Please read this entire notice before making your room deposit. In addition to your room fee, we must request $150.00 for your pet's accomodations. $100.00 is a refundable fee based on the condition we find your room in at checkout time. Fee will not be refunded if we must repair, replace, or use extreme measures to clean any part of the room and/or the furnishings. $50.00 allows your pet to stay here as an added "guest"."

That's outrageous! Yet I think they made their point. If you have to have your pet there it will cost you.

Renting a state park cabin is NOT like staying in a motel. You must make your reservation days and even weeks ahead of time. That gives you enough time to make different plans for your pet's care while you are gone.

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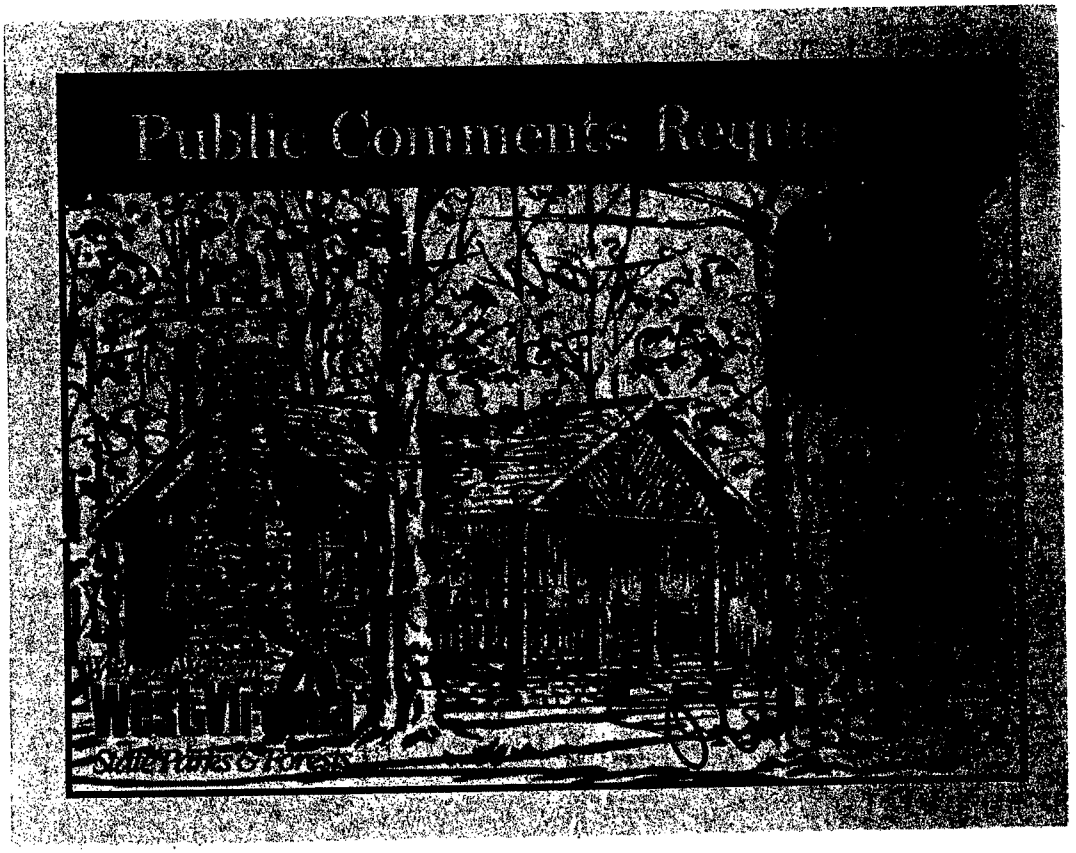
Accredited Buyer
Representative

J.E. HOOD

LICENSED BROKER - WV, OH & KY

Hood Realty Company
40 West 7th Ave.
Suite 1
P.O. Box 1132
Huntington, WV 25713

Office: (304) 522-6252
Mobile: (304) 634-4944
Fax: (304) 522-6252
Home: (304) 525-1586
E-mail: jehood@ezwv.com



Commercial & Residential - Investments

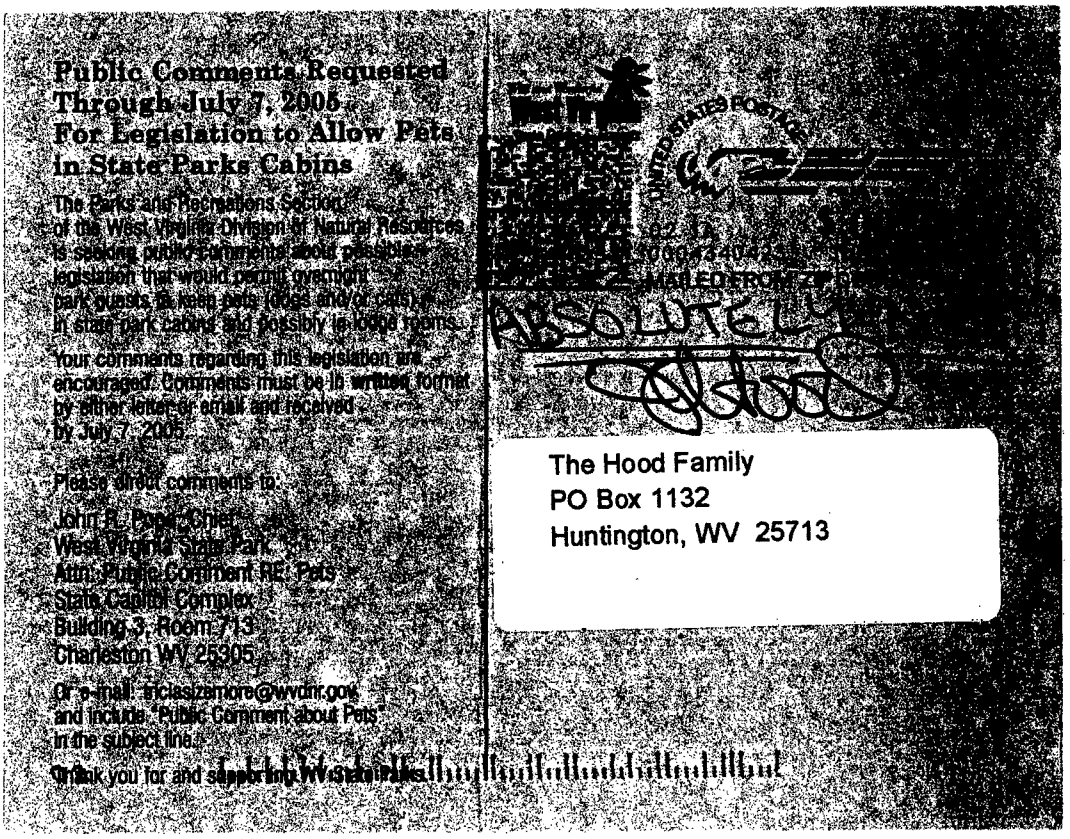
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Fax: (304) 522-6252
Home: (304) 525-1586
E-mail: jehood@ezwv.com



A note from
William Phelps

To John R. Pope;

As a user of Cabins and Lodge Rooms, and a former employee of a State Park. I strongly recommend that animals not be allowed to stay in rooms or cabins unless said rooms or cabins be set aside for animals only insulated from or seperated from regular use rooms. Rooms where animals are allowed should not be rented to guest who do not have animals with them. Some odors cannot be completely removed or cove



A note from
William Phelps

a person with an acute sense of smell may well be bothered by the "dirty" room.
Noisy animals barkings dogs or yapping carried dogs and other animals should not permited in common rooms for relaxing by the fireplace or reading area, or the TV room. may not be enjoyed by the guest even if they are on a leash.

Sincerely,
William B Phelps



-2-

CLARKSBURG WV 263
PM
JUN
2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV. 25305

25305/0009

Dear Mr John R. pope

I am writing in regards, to the overnight park guests, To keep pet's dogs + or Cat's in State park Cabin's and possibly in lodge rooms, I don't think it's right, that anyone should be allowed to bring there dogs + or Cat's in the Cabins + lodge rooms, because there are Other people that doesn't like to sleep and eat + play, where a dog + or Cat has been also there are people that are very allergic to dogs + or Cat's. Me + My husband rent's Cabins. But we have rent a Cabin Where dogs + Cat's has been, we just won't rent one.

The state park that we pay our taxes on, there for Children + family to have Cook out's + to play + recreation. every time we take our Grandson + or having a Cook out or for him to play to the park. people drive up let there dog out of thier Car, and the dog goes right in the recreation area. and also where people are eating

& Children are playing, they let there dog do their bussiness, right in front of you, they stand there, and watch there dog's. it's not right people who have dog's or cat's should not take ~~their dog~~ them to someone else's property to destory or mess in. so I'm strongly against Cat's + or dog's to be Kept in Cabins or lodge room's.
I don't think it's right that people who don't like Cat's or dog's in there house, should have to rent a Cabin or lodge Room Where there has been Cat's + dog's).
I also think there should be a law against, people taking there dogs, to park's to mess in, they need to take them in there own yard after all, there the one's who Kep them in Where they can't get some Where to do there bussiness.
thank's.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 8:09 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Aimn2strike@aol.com [mailto:Aimn2strike@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:13 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins

To Whom It May Concern:

I can't believe pets are going to be allowed in cabins. Especially with small children. Cabins have grassy areas where children can play. This wouldn't be fun if pets do their business outside in the grass. Parents wouldn't be relaxing; they'd have to make sure their children didn't step in the business. I'd say those that own the pets wouldn't clean up after them. The Park employees would!

Also, pets in cabins can cause an accumulation of pet hair on the floor, furniture, etc. This wouldn't be an enjoyable time for those that have allergies and sinus related problems.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 3:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: suzi caldwell [mailto:scaldwe1@circuit.state.wv.us]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 4:02 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at State Parks

Pets should not be allowed at State Parks. You can't always be sure how pets will behave around strangers. Also, they leave their messes everywhere. My family and I stay at Pipestem every year. I don't want to have to dodge animals and their messes or listen to their barking while I'm on vacation.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:34 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Park Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Laura Mann [mailto:digit9559@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:32 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins

I vote no to the proposal. My family and I rent at least three cabins per year and we would be deterred if pets were allowed in the cabins.

Thank you,

Laura Mann
VIPP Member

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Lodging

-----Original Message-----
From: Jay E. Giffin [mailto:JayCountry@webtv.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:21 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Lodging

Pets should not be allowed under any circumstances in WV State Park lodging. I have rented homes to others and have experienced total destruction of facilities when renters sneaked pets into homes in spite of written rules to the contrary. I will no longer stay at Howard Johnson motels because of their policy of permitting pets to run rampant in their rooms. I will NOT stay in facilities which have permitted pets in the rooms.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: dogs in lodge rooms and cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Paul J Harmon [mailto:pjharmon@wvdnr.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:32 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: dogs in lodge rooms and cabins

Dear Mr. Pope,

I would like to share my personal view regarding allowing dogs in lodge rooms and cabins in state parks. I appose that proposal primarily because of those citizens who are allergic to dog and cat dander and for the sake of park employees who will need to clean up after the animals. Pets are great, and I love ours, but inviting folks to bring dogs into lodge rooms and cabins is inviting increased expense for our state parks. I expect Parks to find significant damage to rooms and cabins by dogs that are not well behaved when left alone while families leave to recreate. Our family just enjoyed a wonderful weekend at Blackwater Falls State Park camping, where dogs are permitted on leashes. I was delighted not only with the wonderful facilities and programs, but at how well behaved visitors were. Even those with dogs kept them under control and overall, the campground was quiet and peaceful especially after 10:00 PM. The issue for me is not the presence of dogs, but the potential for terrible increases in repair cost to our parks as well as visitors who are allergic to animal dander not being able to stay in the lodge rooms and cabins.

If one wishes to take a dog with you to our parks, then one may make use of the excellent campgrounds, including trailers in many cases. It provides a reasonable alternative to the lodge rooms and cabins.

Thanks for asking and permitting me to share my thoughts.

Sincerely,

P. J. Harmon

Paul J. Harmon
Endangered Species and Natural Heritage Botanist
Natural Heritage Program
Division of Natural Resources
pjharmon@wvdnr.gov
304.637.0245

Conserving our Natural Heritage for Future Generations

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Lauren Caldwell [mailto:lauren_caldwell_2005@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:33 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at State Parks

I don't want to see pets at State Parks. Not all pets are good pets and not all owners are considerate of others. The pets all have to use the bathroom somewhere and I don't like seeing it while I'm hiking or just going for a walk around the lodges and facilities. I certainly don't like stepping in their messes and I don't want to listen to barking dogs. Animals are animals, not people no matter how much people like to treat them as children.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Anti-pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Matt [mailto:ttamyeto@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:54 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Anti-pets

If you allow pets in state parks, you value them more than humans.. a lot of people are allergic to pet dander. What about the fleas? I go to a state park to relax, not hear dogs barking, let alone having to be careful where I step. I can't even go for a walk in my community without dogs barking or menacing me, heaven forbid I would have to deal with this while on Holiday !

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW DOMESTICATED ANIMALS IN OUR STATE PARKS !

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Doug Jackson [mailto:DougJackson@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:33 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: RE: Pets in parks

Contact: J. R. Pope, Parks and Recreation Section Chief (304) 558-2764
July 26th, 2005

"Absolutely Not" There are too many Geese in the parks now and one is always getting dirty shoes from their mess. Animals should not be allowed in the Parks for cleanliness reasons, not to mention the cost of replacing shrubs and other growing things. And that's just on the Golf Course.

EXCEPT: For Seeing Eye Dogs for Blind People, as usual.

Thank you,
Doug Jackson
5318 Balsam Circle
Cross Lanes, WV 25313

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at WV State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Teresa [mailto:stormyblizz@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:39 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at WV State Parks

We think it is a very bad idea to allow pets in the cabins. Animals are animals and people who don't have animals should not be subjected to staying in a place where animals have been allowed to roam about and deposit their bodily functions! There is no guarantee that you would not end up in a cabin that had allowed pets at some time.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:46 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: no to pets!!!

-----Original Message-----
From: Twila [mailto:nedlam557@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 11:42 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: no to pets!!!

Please No to Pets!!!
Pets-pitt bulls and rottweilers- who would feel safe?
I am a VIPS and stay every year.
I will not return if pets are allowed.
Thank You,
TO. (Miller)

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Matt [mailto:ttamyeto@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 6:05 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Pets in Parks

This is a no-brainer, no fleas, no pet hair, no animal waste to walk in. Animals are held in higher esteem than humans recently. I go to the state parks to relax, not be barked at by noisy animals. I am a V.I.P.P. and my vote should carry more weight. I should not be subject to cute little animals anymore than cigarette smoke.,

Please keep domesticated animals out of our state parks.

Matthew F. Otey
409 Ingles Drive
Charleston, WV 25306-6417
(304) 925-5815

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara Brunty [BGBrunty@Intelos.Net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:19 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

If individuals want dogs, cats, etc sleeping in their bed, on their funiture, crawling on the kitchen counter, playing on the table where they eat, in your own home that is fine. I do not wish to eat or sleep where dogs and cats have shed and scratched!!!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Connie Posey [gse02066@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hi:

I am opposed to allowing pets in state park lodges and cabins. I own pets and love them dearly. However, I don't think that people who are paying for a place to lodge should have to worry about the cleanliness of where they sleep, sit, and eat due to pets; especially people who do not own pets.

I think this could hurt the state parks and could cause the cost of lodging to go up since there would have to be more cleaning done.

Remember, this message is coming from a pet lover so I can only imagine what the thoughts would be of someone who does not own pets.

Thank you and I hope this is helpful in your decision.

Connie Posey

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
ent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:26 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in State Park Cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Kurt Simon [mailto:kurtsimon54@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 8:12 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins

Mr. John Pope,

In reference to the proposed rule change that would permit overnight park guest to keep pets in state park cabins or lodge rooms I have th foloowing comment.

As a frequent park user I would prefer not to allow pets in cabins or rooms unless each park had specific designated rooms or cabins for the pets. My daughter has pet allergies and if we stayed at a location that the previous visitors had pets in the room our stay would not be comfortable.

I do understand the importance of families and pets being together and would support a designated area for pets only. It could be set up similar to smoking rooms only.

Respectfully,
Kurt Simon

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Wtstms@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:45 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

absolutely not. just look at stonewall Jackson lake park. you cannot walk down the side walk without stepping in dog poop. it is all over ,even where you park and in the grass. how are me and my kids supposed to enjoy anything with dog poop everywhere. we have no place to have fun. now you want it in cabins and lodge rooms. no ...no....no

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hugh Anderson Jr. [hughanderson845@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:06 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am opposed to changes in rules that would allow pets in cabins at West Virginia's state parks.

I have a sweet Russian Blue cat who is an important part of my life, but she has no place by my side in a state park cabin.

On the practical side, what about cleaning? Animals, to be blunt, tend to smell. What about the next person to occupy that cabin. What if someone is allergic to animals? To even briefly imagine that "no one would ever know if there was a pet in the cabin before them" is ludicrous. Pet dander, shedding hair, claw marks on woodwork, stains from "accidents" will join the many challenges that already face cleaning crews.

On a natural science vein. Dogs and cats are natural enemies to small animals and prey for larger animals and birds. Imagine cabin areas without chipmunks, squirrels and songbirds. Some state park. On the flip side, imagine (it might take some trying) the little child whose small pet dog or cat has just been killed by a bear, fox, weasel, or bird of prey. Not a very nice picture.

The best solution, for all concerned, is to keep the status quo and not allow pets in the cabin areas of state parks. For some, this means that they will have to spend some time away from their treasured pet - but think of the happy reunion when they get back home to their pet!

Hugh Anderson, Jr.
Moundsville, WV
hughanderson845@msn.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sandy Williamson [swilliamson@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets should not be allowed in park cabins or lodges. What about all the allergies people suffer from pets? What about the folks too lazy to take their pets outside for bathroom facilities? One of my co-workers found pet poop between the nightstand and the bed at Canaan Valley Lodge and that was with a "No Pets Allowed" policy, **after the room had been cleaned.** Wonder what would have happen if pets had been allowed? Build a kennel or "pet hotel" and charge for the service. I like animals - but not in my park or lodge room

Sandy Williamson
235 Maple Road
Hurricane, WV 25526

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charlie Moses [CMOSES@wvdep.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not believe pets should be allowed in cabins at State Parks. When I use a cabin at one of our parks I want to know that it is clean and does not have fleas or pet type of odors. It is a very bad idea and will cause people like myself not to use park cabins in the future.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jim Darling [cjdarling@citynet.net]

Sent: Sunday, July 24, 2005 11:15 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and I have enjoyed many of the state parks in WV including Pipestem this summer. We do not bring our pet with us and will not stay in a facility that allows pets. Although many people consider their pet a member of the family, I think an animal's presence could destroy the tranquality and peacefulness of the parks. In addition, many people are allergic to animal hair or dander and would have a difficult time staying in a cabin or room after a pet has been in the room.
Thank you,
Catherine Darling

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rgarrettc150@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 8:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I personally don't like animals in a place where I will staying!

Tricia Sizemore

From: BarRusty@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 7:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i live in florida now but we always rent cabins in the state parks in october for a week or so and i would not like to stay in a abin where there had been dogs and i would not like to take a walk and dogs out there, matter of fact our last visit up to bluestone, ther were dogs loose and scaring the deers out from our cabin. thank you BUT NO DOGS OR CATS ALLOWED.

Barbara Darnell
orange park, fla

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in cabins and lodge rooms

-----Original Message-----
From: Gvhs57@aol.com [mailto:Gvhs57@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:32 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in cabins and lodge rooms

I do not think the rule change about pets in cabins and lodge rooms is a good idea. I'm a frequent user of state park and lodge facilities and am not in favor of any changes to the rules about pets in cabins and lodge rooms.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 11:35 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets at state parks comment

-----Original Message-----
From: Sue Olcott [mailto:sueolcott@wvdnr.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 11:28 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets at state parks comment

I am a wildlife biologist for WV DNR. These comments, however, are my own and should not be intrepreted as any kind of official statement of WV DNR.

Although I have a dog and love him dearly, I wouldn't bring him with my on vacation to a public facility for several reasons.

First, dogs bark. And in a public area (whether it be a cabin or a lodge), that noise will disturb most people. And if the dog isn't trained or disciplined, which is a frequent situation, some dogs will bark almost nonstop because of stress and excitement. I've been at other state's parks and recreation areas where the people staying at the campsite or cabin have gone somewhere and left the dog tied up outside barking. If I was staying next to them, and could not resolve the situation with the owner, I'd be asking for a new cabin or a refund pretty quickly.

Dogs also bite. Typically they are reacting to a perceived threat to their owners, the owners' children or to themselves, whether or not that threat is real. Traditional guard dogs such as German shepards, doberman pinschers and rottwiellers are popular pets, and are protective. Small lap dogs can be quite nippy. What is the liability for a state park if it allows dogs overnight and an incident occurs?

Dogs have dander and may have external parasites (fleas and ticks). How will you clean a whole cabin, or a lodge room, to ensure that someone staying there a few hours later doesn't have a reaction (which could be life threatening) if they are allergic to pet dander? What will be the policy if someone comes down with Lyme or Rocky Mt. spotted fever from a tick a dog brought into a room (unlikely, but possible)? How will you juggle guests if a room becomes infested with fleas? Not everyone is a responsible pet owner – what policies/restraints will be established to evict or deny entrance to people who have no control over their pet's behavior, or brings an obviously ill pet? How will Parks employees be trained for this?

Long-time Parks employees have told me that when Parks had an overnight pet policy years ago, occupancy at cabins and lodges declined because of the loss of repeat visitation. Is a failed experiment being repeated?

Speaking as a wildlife biologist, having overnight stays by pets will increase the likelihood of interactions between pets and wild mammals because most wild mammals are active at night. These interactions will consist of skunk sprayings (and the resultant cleanup), fights and woundings with raccoons and bears, loss of small dogs to coyotes and bobcats and spread of disease including rabies and distemper to wildlife populations.

I am against having dogs (or cats) stay overnight at state parks. I think that the perceived gains are outweighed by the negative realities. People are accepting of not being allowed to bring their pet to most public overnight facilities, whether it's a state park or a hotel. A minority will be upset, but the majority will be more likely to have a higher quality stay, and will be more likely to return.

Susan Olcott
WV DNR
Wildlife Diversity Program

7/25/2005

PO Bx 99
1110 Railroad St
Farmington WV 26571
(304)825-6787
Fax (304)825-6270
sueolcott@wvdnr.gov

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 8:59 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----
From: Bill Ryder [mailto:imrbill@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 6:58 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject:

I am very much against having pets in state park cabins

Bill Ryder
imrbill@earthlink.net
EarthLink Revolves Around You.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Monica.L.Lorenzano@aphis.usda.gov
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2005 8:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am not against people having or travelling with their pets; I am, however, completely against allowing pets in the cabins or the lodges unless you would set aside one specific cabin or block of rooms in each park for this specific purpose. It would be unfair to those of us who suffer from severe pet allergies for the DNR to allow pets in all cabins and I would be forced to consider other accommodations if that becomes the policy. Even the most meticulous cleaning cannot completely rid a dwelling of dander, hair, and other pet allergens.

My husband and I have spent many wonderful vacations in the cabins of WV State Parks, and it is our hope that we can continue to do so without having to wonder if someone's pets will ruin it for us.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Steve Ladd [sladd@oceanpetroleum.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 6:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

We have been renting a cabin for a week at Lost River for the past six years and are strongly against allowing pets of any type in the cabins.

Thank You
Steve & Beth Ladd
201 N. Main St
Berlin, MD 21811

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jackie Schreier [schreier+@pitt.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 3:22 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I don't think pets should be allowed in cabins or any motel rooms.
Dander and fleas stay long after the animal has gone and other people
using the cabin may have allergies. There is no way to completely clean
up dander and smell of animals sufficiently for other users. Jackie Schreier

Tricia Sizemore

From: Emily Thomas [parkgirl320@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 3:18 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in Cabins/Lodges

To Whom it May Concern:

I have worked as the seasonal naturalist at Holly River State Park for 4 summers now. I have cleaned cabins and helped out enough to see that (certain) people make enough mess for cabin/lodge cleaners to clean, so I cannot imagine the kind of messes that would result from pets in these areas.

Another reason why I do not believe pets should be allowed in these areas is because of the pet dander and smell and fleas. People with allergies are severely sensitive to the dander left behind by animals, regardless of how clean their owners keep them. And in order to get rid of fleas, an area must be flea-bombed and left vacated for several hours. This would increase the amount of time it would take to clean cabins, and also increase the wages paid to the housekeepers. Yet another reason is noise. I cant imagine enjoying a nights rest in a cabin or lodge with a barking dog. Also, the threat of lawsuit would increase...imagine a pet snapping or harming a young child, whose parents would flie suit against the pet owner, or possibly the state park system. What restrictions are going to be placed on what kind of pets will be allowed? What about someone with a snake or small animal that gets loose in the facility?

All in all, if people cannot survive without their pets, they can stay in the campground. I see no reason in letting pets destroy cabin/lodge areas.

Thank you,
Emily Thomas
Holly River State Park Naturalist

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Ritchie County Tourism and Visitors Bureau Inc [rctourism@zoominternet.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 10:09 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Would prefer not but if you have specific rooms/cabins for pet and leave the others pet free. Same as with smoking rooms and cabins.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara S. Perkins [bperkins@gilesk12.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:51 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would strongly disagree with allowing pets in cabins and lodges. Thank you!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gwen Richards [gsrichards@ysu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 8:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Please do NOT allow pets in rooms; it would not be fair to people with allergies (of whom there are many) & to those who do NOT like the lingering scent of a pet having been in a room ----

People w/pets could still enjoy the rooms, while leaving their pets at home, but others would not be able to stay there at ALL.

Gwen Richards

Tricia Sizemore

From: rickbelpre@charter.net
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 11:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets

I feel that pets in state parks will be a disaster. I understand that the attraction of taking your pet will increase attendance at the park but I feel there may be confrontations between pets and between pets and wildlife. I saw a black bear just off the road in Watoga this summer. What do you think will happen if the family dog runs after the bear (or deer). The noise of barking dogs will be a distraction in many people's enjoyment of nature. There are sanitary considerations in the cabins or lodge rooms. By the way, I am owned by a dog and love it. She stays home when we go to the peace of the state park system. Rick Albright

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in state Parks Cabins and Lodges

-----Original Message-----
From: Frank Lewis [mailto:fandblewis@citlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 10:22 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in state Parks Cabins and Lodges

I am opposed ot allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms. Pets, regardless of how clean the owner believes them to be, will leave odors, perhaps fleas and other parasites wihich may be harmful to subsequent guests in the rooms. Many people are allergic to dogs and cats and do not want to be placed in an area where they have been. Keep ther pets in the kennel or outside of the rooms.
Frank Lewis

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rich Bragonje [rbragonj@wvu.edu]
ent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Greetings,

My wife and I, and now our children, have spent our vacations in WV State Parks for the past 18 years. Usually in Babcock or Watoga. I think that one of the great features is that we do not have to deal with pets that belong to other people in the park.

I think that allowing pets would have a negative effect on the wildlife. While I know that the deer populations are too high, I don't want to see dogs chasing them. I also don't want to encounter their leavings.

I don't think their presence in the cabins would be good either. Dogs and cats both inflict damage to doors, wall, floors and furniture.

Please do not allow this proposed change.

Thanks,

Rich Bragonje
506 Madison Ave
Morgantown, WV 26501-6449

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets Permitted in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Tammie Thompson [mailto:tammiethompson@wvdnr.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:31 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets Permitted in State Parks

I wish to comment regarding pets being allowed in state park rooms and cabins.

I think pets should continue to be PROHIBITED in state park rooms and cabins. Not only are there a number of individuals who are allergic to animals, but most people (animal lovers and not) do not like the odor/hair that an animal leaves behind -- and all the housekeeping efforts do not completely eliminate such. If pets were allowed, not only would park guests have to tolerate being placed in a room where an animal had just visited, but would also be subject to the animals throughout the day (greeting on the lawn – hiking trails, etc.).

I hope the committee investigating this issue will think about the liability involved should a severe allergic person be placed in a room where a pet had recently stayed. As I am allergic asthmatic, I will stop breathing if I enter a room where a cat or dog has been due to dander residue.

I would like to add that I do have an outside pet (a dog) -- so this opinion is not based on my hatred of animals.

BAD IDEA. I STRONGLY OPPOSE!!!!

Tammie Thompson
304-637-0245

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:23 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: No-way Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: GIJOEAF52@aol.com [mailto:GIJOEAF52@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 2:51 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: No-way Pets

FLEAS ! FECES !

No way people will clean up after their pets. Plus, once you have an infestation of fleas.....game over.

One other thing about having pets on site is the possibility of them biting sombody or somebody elses pet. Who needs that? Oh, yea.....noise.

I`m sure you`ll get lots of pro`s and con`s on the issue but that`s my 2 cents.

I put my pets in a kennel when we go on vacation. Everybody is happy.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Claire Bragonje [cbragonje@hsc.wvu.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 10:37 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I'm a long time pet owner and lover. However, I don't think pets belong in our state park cabins. WV has many beautiful cabins dating back to the beginning of our state park system. I think the risk of dogs/cats doing damage to the cabins and lodges out weighs the benefits to the owners.
Also, we need to consider the noise a barking dog could produce. If I rent a cabin that is next to a cabin that houses a barking dog, will the park super come out to quiet the dog at 3AM? How do I reach the park super since most of our cabins have no phone service?
What if a dog or cat gets lose? Who is responsible for catching it? Do we want the risk of dogs and/or cats being coming feral and roaming our state parks? I don't think so.
Please don't change a rule that protects our quiet, our cabins and our vacations. I leave my pets at home, get a pet sitter and enjoy my vacation.
Please contact me at 304-319-2443 if you would like to speak with me on this issue.
My husband and I have been spending our vacations at WV State Parks for the past 18 years, every year. I believe our state parks are wonderful jewels to be protected and enjoyed by us and generations to come.
Please keep pets at home. It's less stressful for them, too.
Thank you.
Claire Bragonje
506 Madison Ave.
Morgantown, WV 26501

Tricia Sizemore

From: George Hissom [Corky050@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 10:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I do not believe dogs or cats should be permitted in Lodge rooms or in the Park Cabins.

George Hissom
7003 Valley Brook Drive
Brook Charleston, wv 25312

Tricia Sizemore

From: Aaron [aaronferrari@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 7:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not think that pets should be allowed in cabins or lodge rooms. Maybe there should be a few rooms and/or cabins that can have pets but if all rooms and/or cabins had pets in them, there would be fleas and dander. If someone was allergic to animal dander then they would not enjoy their stay and not want to come back to that lodge/cabin.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 11:10 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet Rule Change

-----Original Message-----
From: Ed McMinn [mailto:emcminn@wvdcjs.org]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 10:50 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pet Rule Change

I do not believe pets should be permitted in lodge rooms or cabins. Individuals with allergies to pets will be effected and will not enjoy their stay if pets have been allowed to stay in the rooms despite the best efforts to clean up after them. Pet owners can utilize kennels to keep their pets safe while traveling and not impact the enjoyment of others utilizing the facilities after they have gone. The only exception to this would be for service animals such as seeing-eye dogs.

Ed McMinn
South Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Crites Construction [critesconstruction@citynet.net]

Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 10:23 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Please do not start the practice of allowing pets in the cabins or lodge rooms of the state parks. I love to stay at the parks and often rent cabins or lodge rooms. I have seen how hard it is for the staffs to keep the cabins and lodges clean, and sometimes even without pets this is not done properly. I feel that by letting pets into the rooms and cabins you are creating more cleaning difficulties and do not feel they will be sanitary. Pests will also become a problem.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Annette Roberts [aroberts@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 9:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I disagree with pets being allowed in WV State Park Cabins. We love the state parks and due to my child having allergies we would no longer use the cabins. Please consider folks with allergy problems when making your decision. Thanks Annette Roberts

Tricia Sizemore

From: Frank Daugherty [fdaugherty@charter.net]
ent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 10:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

It seems to me that pet's could be boarded or keep by relatives for a vacation. If you start letting dog's in cabins then it is going to smell bad as well as flees. Thank you very Much Frank

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kevindkm@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 10:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Don't let it happen. Keep pet's at home where they belong.

Tricia Sizemore

From: turtlebeth21@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, July 17, 2005 5:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Comment on Pets in the lodge and cabins of WV State Parks

Hello,

I am an employee at Cacapon Resort State Park and I wanted to comment on allowing pets in the lodge and cabins. Personally, I do not think it is appropriate. Some people (including myself) have severe allergies to some animals. Also, fleas, ticks, and diseases from the animals could potentially cause major problems. Another point, who is going to be responsible for the noiseof the animals? Who is going to be responsible for cleaning up the fecies and other excretions that the animals produce? If you are thinking of allowing pets, I think you should build separate facilities for the guests and their animals.

Thank you for your time.

Beth
Cacapon State Park

Tricia Sizemore

From: KSte667154@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 8:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Keep it as is. Sure one little dog is no problem , but maybe two or three .....then there is the flea tick problems ..... the next guest may have an alergy...We take our 2 dogs camping and that works out well ...all enjoy the time and woods. John

Tricia Sizemore

From: ldadisman [ldadisman@yahoo.com]

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 8:22 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I do not believe animals should be allowed to stay in cabins. Animals carry diseases and pests that carry disease, such as ticks and fleas. Animals also spray their territory and people are allergic to them and have asthma attacks. The excrement left behind inside and out would not make for a pleasant outing. Animals would inflict damage that is lasting to the structures that would cost a high price to replace. I would not want to stay in a cabin that has housed animals. I believe it would make me sick. I do not have animals in my house nor do I want any. I have not been sick from common everyday diseases, such as colds, flue, lime disease for many many years. I do have bad allergies. I love animals but do not allow them in my house.

Thank You,
Larry B. Dadisman
912 Greendale Dr.
Charleston, WV 25302-3224

Tricia Sizemore

From: Judy Parsons [JParsons@dot.state.wv.us]

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 3:46 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am a pet owner. I am not in favor of having pets in the lodging areas. We are only able to stay a couple times a year and would not want our stay ruined by the fleas left behind by someone's pets. Not to mention the cost to the State for extra cleaning of the messes left behind by the animals' owners.
Thanks for letting us voice our opinions.

Tricia Sizemore

From: THEDCBANDMOM@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 3:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I have terrible allergies to animals. Although I love them, I don't think they should have a place in lodge rooms or cabins. As much as the housekeepers will try to clean, you can't get all pet smells or dander (which is what causes the allergy) out. If you could have certain rooms ONLY for them to stay in, and other customers can request rooms where pets DON'T stay, I might be able live with that. If it can't be done or would be too much hassle, then PLEASE don't do it. I wouldn't be able to stay at those parks any more.
Thank you for your time.
Tana Blake

Tricia Sizemore

From: Diane H Kuhn [dhkuhn@comporium.net]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 2:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Ah, NO. People need to leave their pets behind. I think it is just rude to expect that others want to see and hear your precious pooch!! They leave behind hair and dander that others are allergic too, not to mention odors. Thank you for allowing comments. Diane Kuhn

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Howard [hwalls@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 1:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hello,
I regularly camp at WV state parks specifically Holly River state park. While I mainly use the campgrounds I have stayed in 4 of the cabins over the last 10 years. I hope you will not permit (pets) dogs or cats to stay in your cabins. This is terrible for people that have allergies. The animals could do damage to the cabins as far as scratching woodwork, chewing things up and using the bathroom on the floor!! I can understand pet owners desire to bring their animals with them. I have pets myself.....if you have to permit pets I suggest you offer a few cabins at each state park for owners with pets and then keep the other cabins as no pets allowed!!!! If you allow pets in the cabins I will never stay in a cabin again for the above reasons.
Thank you.
Have a good weekend.
Terry & Howard Walls

Tricia Sizemore

From: Elana Pressman [elana_pressman@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2005 9:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: comment: pets allowed in state cabins

Elana Pressman
103 Lakeside Dr.
Lewisburg, PA 17837
570-523-8771

John R. Pope, Chief
DNR Parks and Recreation
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston , WV 25305

July 14, 2002

Mr. Pope,

I would like to express my opposition to the proposed rule to allow pets in state park cabins and lodge rooms. My two reasons are; the cat and dog allergies of some visitors, and an increase in noise.

The Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America states that one in five Americans have allergies, and of these, 15-30% suffer from an allergy to pets, (www.aafa.org). This is a large portion of the American population that could possibly be excluded from the use of your cabins. I urge to you to consider whether this would cause a case of discrimination. I have enjoyed staying in state park cabins, though, if this rule were to be passed, I would no longer be able to do so. I am allergic to cats, and, like many with this allergy, I can become very sick if I am in a room where a cat was, even though that cat may no longer be there. For someone allergic to cats, even if the place has been well cleaned, they can become sick.

The second problem the passage of this rule would cause is an increased noise level. I often travel to state parks to escape the noise of the city. But in parks where dogs are allowed, the noise level is often loud and frustrating. Although I do enjoy dogs, when I travel to find peace, quiet, and retreat time, I do not care to have the sound of barking dogs drown out the sounds of birds, scare away wildlife, and other nuisances caused by added noise. Even if it were not for the factor of allergies, if dogs were to be allowed, I would prioritize other vacation locations over your cabins.

Overall, I think the passage of this bill would lead to a large portion of the population to be unable to use the facilities due to allergies, and would take away from the tranquility a visit to a park can offer.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my opinion.

Sincerely,

Elana Pressman

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Ken L Clohan [kenclohan@juno.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 10:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not support allowing pets in any state building other than those required for blind persons.

I am concerned that pets may cause un repairable damage to existing buildings.

One possible solution to this dilemma may be to provide suitable dog houses at cabins and cottages where practical . This would allow the family pet to accompany the rest of the family on vacation and avoid damage to any facilities. As is customary in most locations, the owner should be required to clean up any droppings left by the animal or be charged a cleaning fee for the area surrounding the cabin or cottage.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Ken Clohan, Jr.
1602 W. Martin Street
Martinsburg, WV 25401
(304)264-4067

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lisa Lovelady [lovelald@ntelos.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 10:41 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hi,

My concern would be: barking dogs, especially early in the morning, and feces. Wouldn't this be more clean-up and a sanitation problems?

Thanks,
Lisa Lovelady

Tricia Sizemore

From: The Leonard Family [pjleo@bellsouth.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2005 8:10 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I have stayed in several state parks in West VA. I think the facilities in West Virginia are wonderful, especially when compared with other neighboring states. I vote no to dogs. I am concerned about saftey and cleanliness. Julie Leonard

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lori Lewis [LoriRL@charter.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2005 11:02 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Although I would not like to see the change at all, if you must please let it be for cabins only. We seem to stay in the lodges more now that we have children and I certainly would not find it very enjoyable listening to dogs barking while we are trying to relax.

We like the state parks because they are close to home and very relaxing. This would definitely ruin it for us and we would be forced to stay in hotels from now on. Please do not let animals in the lodges.

Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Sharp [lcsharp2904@earthlink.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2005 7:20 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

NO WAY SHOULD THAT BE ALLOWED , WOULD YOU WANT TO SLEEP WHERE A PET HAD USED THE BATHROOM OR WALK IN THE STUFF , SOME PEOPLE WOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE RIGHT. I SAY NO .

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 8:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in rooms

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: charles harler [mailto:charlesh6@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 7:14 PM
To: John Pope
Subject: pets in rooms

NO!

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Tricia Sizemore

From: sara kochenderfer [sara@happylemur.com]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 5:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We have stayed in several WV State Parks over the past 30 years and have enjoyed the peace and beauty of the surroundings. I believe that pets would be a detriment to this experience. In most parks the wildlife which seem to frequent the cabin areas would have an unsettling effect on most pets (dogs) and result in their natural urge to bark or chase wildlife. If people must have their pets within daily contact with them, perhaps some type of kennelling arrangement at the park or in the nearby community could be worked out. I hope the parks stay "pet free".

thank you

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dianna Perdue [dperdue@focusone.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2005 2:16 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I hope pets aren't allowed in the cabins. People that are allergic will suffer. I doubt that there are many who will NOT rent a cabin because they cannot bring their pets inside. I do believe there are people who will not rent if there have been pets as there are those who will not rent smoking rooms. There will also be those that will not rent again if they have one bad incident with a cabin where a pet has been. Housekeeping will have an additional burden and ultimately the room rates will go up and then everyone will be paying for those pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
ent: Tuesday, July 12, 2005 10:32 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: animals in cabins/lodges

-----Original Message-----
From: Phoebe Heishman [mailto:pfheish@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2005 9:44 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: animals in cabins/lodges

As a long time visitor in the WV State Parks, I oppose allowing animals in the cabins or lodges unless they are kept in specific cabins/rooms. As long as facilities are available in which animals have not been allowed it won't be a problem. Having had family members with allergies, it would be difficult to be put in lodge rooms or cabins where cat and dog dander were found. Plus, for non animal people, the smell (which often cannot be eliminated) could be a turn-off. Another issue is the feces left behind by dogs. If they are going to be allowed around the cabins/lodges please require owners to use scoopers and bags and remove the evidence.

Thanks,
Phoebe F. Heishman
Moorefield WV

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Tricia Sizemore

From: R.L. GIVEN [RLG_GIVEN@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 11:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

only under one condition,guide dog for blind!there should not be any pets in or on state property , with the one execption. NO EXECPTIONS!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Terry Hardy [thardy@dbcoders.com]
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 3:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

While I love dogs and cats, please do not allow them in the cabins or immediate area. Specifically, I'm concerned with "out of control" dogs where the owners are either irresponsible or assume everyone loves their dog. We enjoy walking and sitting outside the cabin(s) watching nature so the last thing we would want is someone's dog running up barking at us and scaring us and/or the children, scaring the wildlife away or possibly biting someone. We love the cabins in Watoga (and others we've visited) where the deer wander around freely so you can imagine a peaceful vacation ruined by some irresponsible dog owner. Also, I suppose there could be the argument that some people make more noise than someone's pets but personally, we go out of our way to respect the neighbors' privacy.

Again I love animals and I'm sure a large percentage of pet owners are responsible. However, it only takes one or two instances from a strange dog to ruin a vacation. Keep in mind too, that some children are petrified of dogs running up to them or meeting them face to face even when a dog is on a leash. Posting rules will do no good as the responsible folks are the only ones that would follow them anyway regarding leashes, etc.

Lastly, and I'm no lawyer, it seems allowing pets would open WV to some liability in the unfortunate event where a person is bitten by another's pet.

Thank you for accepting input on this matter and please keep the parks just as they are regarding pets.

Terry Hardy
Fredericksburg, VA

Tricia Sizemore

From: YankeeWard@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 2:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I realize that I'm a few days late for this comment, but I figure better late than never.

My family and I have enjoyed many enjoyable overnights and wonderful vacations at West Virginia parks. We hope to continue to do so, but would be unable to if legislation permits pets in cabins and lodge rooms. My son is allergic to dogs and cats, which can trigger sneezing, runny nose, itching eyes and allergy attacks. These reactions can take place long after these animals are gone, even after cleaning, disinfecting and vacuuming.

We have always commented on what a good job West Virginia does in cleaning its cabins and how nice it is that we don't have to worry about our son's allergies when vacationing there. We hope that you leave the no-pets rule as it is.

Thanks for accepting my comments.

Joan Ward
Pittsburgh, PA

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mary Etta Hight [hight@marshall.edu]
Sent: Sunday, July 10, 2005 12:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: hight@marshall.edu
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore:
In my opinion it is not in the best interests of the Parks or their visitors to change regulations to permit pets in their rooms (cabins or lodges). There are several good reasons not to make these changes, of which I mention these:

1. Not all pet owners have a very high standard of cleanliness and often even less than when in their own homes.
2. Many dogs and cats do not react well to new surroundings and the urge to "mark" the new territory is great.
3. Many people are allergic to cat dandruff - not to mention flea bites - and subsequent vistors would be at risk.

The maintenance of rooms in the state facilities would be complicated by the likely need to vacumn, mop and sterilize rooms. Not all people like pets and there would likely be conflicts arise amongst visitor who found themselves sharing space with someone else's pets.

A possible compromise might be to arrange a concession for a kennels/pet care facility just outside the park so those who who want their pets close by could arrange it.

I stongly oppose changing the rules to allow pets in rooms at state parks.

Thank you.

Mary Etta Hight
Mammalogist

Tricia Sizemore

From: Linda Calvert [lcalvert@ntelos.net]

Sent: Friday, July 08, 2005 12:43 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Cc: lcalvert@wvntelos.net

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I hope it's not too late for my vote to be counted. I think allowing pets in cabins at State Parks would be a huge mistake. Not everyone has or wants a dog, nor do they
want to be bothered by their barking or step in their poop.
Some people are allergic to animals and wouldn't want to stay in a cabin that had been occupied by dogs. Some who don't have pet allergies just simply don't want to stay in a
cabin that has dog hairs and smells like a dog . . . . and how do you define "pets." What else would be included? Would they have to be on a leash? If not, it could be a hazard to runners, bikers, and children. Would pit bulls and other dangerous breeds be allowed? Where do you draw the line?

State parks should be a quiet, clean, and peaceful refuge for all, including deer and other wildlife that would be scared away by dogs chasing and barking at them. We all make choices in life, and owning a pet is a very personal choice. Those who choose not to have pets should not have to deal with the pets of others any more than they should have to be exposed to other people's smoking. Added to all this would be additional expenses on an already-strained budget for increased upkeep, cleanup, and repair. I hope WV State Parks won't go to the dogs!!

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opposition to this proposal. Our state parks are known to be among the best, if not the best, in the nation. I hope they remain that way.

Sincerely,
Linda Calvert
South Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: lksabol [lksabol@earthlink.net]
ent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 10:51 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am a pet owner and am very familiar with the joys of pet ownership; however, I am also familiar with the disadvantages such as pet hair, urine, fleas and ticks. While I will put up with these disadvantages at home, I do not wish to inflict them upon others and do not wish to have these disadvantages inflicted upon me during my stay at a state park.

In the past, I have greatly enjoyed my visits to our wonderful state parks usually by renting a cabin at least twice a year. This enjoyment would be diminished should I have to put up with pet hair, urine, fleas and ticks in the bedding, dishes, couches, rugs, etc. during my visit (particularly if it the "leavings" of someone else's pet!) The additional cleaning and sanitizing of these areas would result in an increase in rates which would be detrimental to my current enjoyment of an economical and relaxing retreat in a state park cabin.

Sincerely,
Leslie Sabol

Tricia Sizemore

From: Twila [nedlam557@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 9:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i Do Not want pets in cabins in WV
i think pets would be okay at campsites but not in cabins or in lodge rooms- think of the fleas!!!!! yikes!!!
i am a vipp
thank you
tj

Tricia Sizemore

From: J Cain [cainj@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 7:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in Cabins at WV State Parks

Hello, I understand your office is seeking feedback on the subject of allowing pets in WV State Parks. I wanted to pass on that I am opposed to this. I am a pet owner (dog) and don't necessary having anything against pets.

One key reason I visit WV State parks is because of the peace and quite that is offered. Having that serenity interupted by someones barking dog is not something I desire. People can clean up their pets messes (if they are inclined). They can't stop their dogs from barking (at squirrels, deer, chipmunks, birds, people, other dogs, etc. etc.).

Jeff Cain
740-376-6053

Tricia Sizemore

From: joannhowell [joannhowell@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 4:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

We are absolutely against permitting overnight park guests to keep pets of any kind in state park cabins and lodge rooms.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ted and Jo Ann Howell
1330 Main St.
Follansbee, WV 26037

Email: joann Howell@comcast.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 1:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Lodges - NO

-----Original Message-----
From: mprice1204@charter.net [mailto:mprice1204@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 11:36 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Lodges - NO

Dear Mr. Pope,

It was with great distress that I read about the proposal to allow animals to stay with their owners in the lodges at West Virginia State Parks. I enjoy our wonderful parks and have stayed in the lodges at Canaan, Black Water, North Bend and Hawks Nest many times over the years for conferences and personal visits. I have severe allergies to animal dander and have to take daily medication for those and other allergies. If animals are allowed in the lodges I will no longer be able to make overnight visits to these lovely places. I understand that pet owners regard their animal friends as part of the family - if I were able to breathe around animals I would have a cat or a dog - but if they need to bring their animals with them on vacation they have the option of staying at the camp grounds or in cabins. Please do not remove my only option to enjoy the parks.

Thank you for your attention to my concerns.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Price
1204 Alexander Street
Charleston, WV 25302
304-345-3263

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hight, Denise [DHight@eca-eaec.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 9:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Hight, Denise
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Mr. Pope:

In my opinion, allowing guests to keep their pets in cabins and lodge room within state parks is not in the best interest of guests wishing a quiet retreat. If my neighborhood is any indication of what it would be like to stay at in a park area, then there would be no point in leaving home.

It would require pet owners to be responsible and courteous to other guests, maintain control, and "clean up" after their animals. Most pet owners are not that diligent.

It will be difficult if not impossible to maintain a healthy environment in a room for pets and guests if many different animals are brought into the same room within a given year. Your cleaning personal with have to deal with fleas, ticks, pet hair, and animals that decide they need to "mark" their territory. A walking area would need to be set aside and maintained for pets to use so that other guests wouldn't have to deal with odors and waste.

I care about the health of my dog and cat, and my well being, and therefore would not bring them to the park. I feel others should also leave their animals home.

Respectfully,

Denise A. Hight

Tricia Sizemore

From: rebecca elswick [rebelswick@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 07, 2005 7:28 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in state park cabins

Please register two votes against allowing pets in state park cabins. Thank you.

Bruce and Alice parrish
435 High Street
Spencer, WV 25276

Bruceop@yahoo.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Dave Talerico [dtalerico@cebridge.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 10:51 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am a regular visitor at all the state parks and I am against letting dogs or cats stay in cabins or lodge rooms. Do not let this happen. People who own pets have no consideration for others and I don't want to stay in rooms where dogs or cats have stayed. DO NOT let this happen, I will stop using vaction time at our beautiful state parks.
Concerned
Dave T

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charles Carter [charliecarter@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 7:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Don Caruth
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

I am adamantly opposed to overnight guests keeping pets in state park cabins or lodge rooms. Obviously, pets soiling floors, carpets, bedding, furniture, etc. will make the accommodations difficult to clean and unsanitary. I have had the unpleasant experience of staying in a cottage where pets had been permitted to stay and the fleas were unbearable. In addition, the noise created by howling and barking dogs should not have to be tolerated by park guests.

Thank you for this opportunity to express my opinion concerning this subject.

Sincerely,
Charles Carter

cc: Senator Donald T. Caruth

Tricia Sizemore

From: mark [jncowv@myway.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 7:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

as a pet owner myself, i forsee only problems with allowing pets to stay in state park cabins/lodge rooms.There are always going to be pet owners who are not responsible enough to make sure pets don't leave thier "mark" in the cabins.Even the one ones who are responsible, can't always keep accidents from happening.Most of the rentals are in the summer month's when pet fur gets on everything.I have stayed at some of the old ccc cabins, they are so nice.It would be a shame to have to replace any part of these great landmarks because of pets, not to mention the cost.I am very much "pro" animals, but when i visit a state park i leave them at home.

Thanks

mark lowe

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Elronduh@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 4:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Regarding public comment about pets

I am not in favor of having pets in West Virginia cabins and lodges. Many people do not clean up after their animals, or they do not clean the animals themselves properly. So when a pet-less person comes in, they either are disgusted by the smell, or they get fleas. I know many people do take care of their pets, and would not leave anything unpleasant behind, but all it would take would be one or two sloppy people and their pets to ruin a room.
Thanks,
Stefanie Shields

Tricia Sizemore

From: LLCDSI@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 3:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

Dear DNR:

We are senior citizens who enjoy the beauty of our state. We have stayed at cabins, lodges, and camp grounds. We are *not* in favor of letting pets into the cabins or lodges and would prefer them to not be at campground either.

One animal can spoil it for everyone in a cabin area or lodge, as they can for a campground. By allowing no pets we all get to enjoy the beauty of our state without the noise and annoyance.

Thank you,

Cecil and Katie Shields
Parkersburg, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Samsss@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 3:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Tricia:

We heard that you are interested in peoples opinion about pets at lodges and cabins. Please mark us as a large NO.

Our pet remains at home while we are away and we do not enjoy dealing with other's pets while we are on vacation. Our experiences come from having pets at campgrounds. It is not pleasant to sit about a campfire listening to the dog down the way barking nonstop. We have children and do not enjoy stray dogs showing up on our site uninvited. The droppings of dogs are often not tended to. Some people do have obedient animals, but so many seem to have no regard for the others about them. So, we would be delighted if they were also excluded from campgrounds.

In conclusion, I do hope the state does not open it's lovely cabins and lodges to fleas, smell, and noise. We love visiting in the state and hope that your policy of no pets continue.
Thank you.

Sam and Sherry Shields

Tricia Sizemore

From: Pam Staats [pstaats@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 1:54 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

I don't think pets should be allowed in cabins and lodge rooms. My feeling on this subject is that they leave hair on items and in the air that I and many others are highly allergic to. Also, some leave nasty odors in the rooms and buildings because no matter how clean your pets are some still stink. Cat dander is horrible for allergies, too. Also, some patrons do NOT clean up after their pets. They let their pets urinate and do #2 on carpets and on furniture. Pets are allowed to tear up items such as chewing on furniture, etc., too. If you decide to allow pets in the rooms then you should have pet rooms and non-pet rooms available to the public. The non-pet rooms should be non-smoking rooms, too. The smoking is as bad or worse than the pet's hair, dander, odors, and the chewing up of the furniture and drapes!

Thanks for the opportunity to voice my opinion,
Pam Staats
DOH

Tricia Sizemore

From: TOMMYBABA@cs.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 1:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

NO..I do not think dogs should be in our lodges and cabin areas.
Dog feces would be a problem. It would not be pleasant.
Dogs do bark at everything that makes a move.Thanks Tom

Tricia Sizemore

From: Babawawa622@cs.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 12:51 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I cannot see any place in the state parks and cabins for dogs and cats.
I for one do not want to listento a dog barking in the park, especially if I am paying 80.00 dollars a night to stay in park facilities. The peace and ambience would totally disappear and so would I requesting a refund on the way out.
How about animal wastes? Fleas? I for one will not sleep on a mattress I feel someone's dog has been sleeping on. Most people who would bring their dogs with them sleep in the bed with them.
How about damagesto park property?
Please think this through. What is wrong with the way things are right now? If it ain't broke, don't attempt to fix it.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary Loudermilk [garyloudermilk@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 12:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not believe that a llowing pets in cabins and lodges in WV state parks is a good idea due to fl eas and ticks being brought into the housing. thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Super Heroine [rhinotime@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 8:42 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Chief Pope!

No Pets!

Pets urinate - drop feces - bark - whine- bite (God forbid).

Dogs chase cats.

Cats climb (curtains - trees - people). They also bite and scratch. Rip fabric. Furniture. Sharpen their claws. Then WE get splinters....

Lots of people are allergic to one or both.

Sincerely
The Slate's --
Claude
Sylvia
Katherene

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ilesa Casto [ijcasto@access.k12.wv.us]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 8:34 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

As I get on in years, I find that I am allergic to more and more things. On a recent trip to Orlando, I had to change rooms because someone had had a pet in the room that I was put in. The bed was full of fleas. It made for a rough vacation.

I am AGAINST allowing pets to stay in rooms. Besides, kennel owners need the business too! Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: David Stottlemire [dstottlemire@neo.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 5:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I, for one, don't even like the fact that you allow pets in the campgrounds. I would not even consider staying in a cabin or especially a lodge room after someone kept there dog or cat in it.
Have you ever heard of people who are allergic to cats or dogs.
Think about what you are proposing.

David Stottlemire
Ohio

Tricia Sizemore

From: TroutFishingWV@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 1:37 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

It is a bad idea to allow pets in cabins or lodge rooms. I don't find the idea of getting bit by a dog much of a vacation. We do not stay where animals are allowed.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ports, Joan [JPorts@towson.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 1:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Hello,

Although my family and I have pets and would love for it to be possible to bring them to WVA lodges and cabins, I believe that overall, it would be more problematic than good. Pets (particularly dogs) can be very noisy. The barking may pose a problem for other visitors and guests. There are also concerns about animal waste - in rooms, cabins, on trails, and in the park. Fleas and ticks in bedding and carpets would also be highly undesirable. Therefore, my family and I would prefer that pets not be allowed.

Sincerely,

Joan Ports
Jan Ports
Chris Attenborough

Tricia Sizemore

From: Becky and Casey [beckycasey23@adelphia.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 9:15 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I have stayed in several cabins in WV and I think they are great! I don't think allowing dogs in them would be a good idea, if this would pass I hope that there would be some requirements that would have to be followed such as 20 pounds or smaller , prior flea/tick control ect. I own registered golden retreivers and I love them dearly , but I would'nt even consider taking them into someone elses dwelling. sincerely , gary & becky casteel

Tricia Sizemore

From: Keith Ferrell [keithdfer@msn.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 12:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

John R. Pope
West Virginia State Parks

Dear Sir,
I am against the request for guests to keep pets, (dogs and/or cats), in our state park cabins or lodges. The main reason I say no is for sanitary and health reasons. I have Grandchildren who are allergic to dogs and cats, and I am sure a lot of people who use our parks are also allergic as well. Not every one who take their pets along, clean up after them or keep them off the beds, tables or chairs.
I also don't like the thought of sleeping where the pets leave their slobbers, fleas, ticks, and as you well know, dogs roll and wallow in any dead matter they find.

I have owned dogs all my life, and think people should leave them at home when they travel to our parks and lodges.

Thanks,
Keith D. Ferrell

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Robert Bailey [Ctcollector@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 7:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

I oppose the possible legislation that would permit the overnight park guests to keep pets in state cabins and lodge rooms. I as well as a lot of other people who use the parks have allergies and would cease staying in the state parks if this were to be allowed.

Robert Bailey
ctcollector@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: LAJarrett7@aol.com

Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 4:37 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do not allow pets into state park cabins or lodge rooms. I enjoy staying at the state parks but I am allergic to dogs and cats and would not be able to stay in them if this is allowed. Thanks!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Leonard M. Adkins [habitualhiker.va@netzero.net]
Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 11:14 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment on pets

YES

Please reserve some cabins and rooms so that guests may bring their pets to state park cabins and lodges.

Leonard M. Adkins
540-966-2811

Tricia Sizemore

From: name game [namegamewv@adelphia.net]
Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I don't want pets in the cabins or lodges.
Chuck Rothbard

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ron Harp [ron.harp@adelphia.net]
Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 8:57 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Ms. Sizemore,
My wife is SEVERELY allergic to dogs and cats. By allowing such pets into the cabins, it would effectively prohibit these public facilities from being used by wife.

If it is decided that pets are to be allowed, the park management will have to make reasonable accomodations for those with such allergies, as per the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (see link http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/statute.html).

Sincerely,
Ron Harp
170 Belgian Way
Charles Town, WV 25414
304-885-4202

SEC. 302. PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION BY PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS.

42 USC 12182.

(a) General Rule. No individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any person who owns, leases (or leases to), or operates a place of public accommodation.

(ii) that perpetuate the discrimination of others who are subject to common administrative control.

(E) Association. It shall be discriminatory to exclude or otherwise deny equal goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, accommodations, or other opportunities to an individual or entity because of the known disability of an individual with whom the individual or entity is known to have a relationship or association.

(2) Specific prohibitions.

(A) Discrimination. For purposes of subsection (a), discrimination includes

(i) the imposition or application of eligibility criteria that screen out or tend to screen out an individual with a disability or any class of individuals with disabilities from fully and equally enjoying any goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations, unless such criteria can be shown to be necessary for the provision of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations being offered;

Tricia Sizemore

From: name game [namegamewv@adelphia.net]

Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 8:36 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I love pets, BUT...
I **do not** believe pets should be allowed in state park cabins or in lodge rooms.
My husband and I are senior citizens and VIPP members (5 stars). Staying at a WV lodge/cabin is a special vacation for us. We don't want to have to be concerned about where we are walking barefooted in our room, or be kept awake at night with a barking dog next door.
Love our WV parks!
Merry Rothbard

Tricia Sizemore

From: Summer Michael [jitterbugjunky01@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 03, 2005 4:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Comment on allowing Pets in WV State Parks

To Whom It May Concern:

I uphold the current policy prohibiting pets in WV State Park lodges and cabins for the following reasons:

* A lot of people in the United States have allergies, including myself. I am allergic to cats and various flea powders. If I was looking for accomadations, as much as I love WV State Parks I could not stay in one for fear of an allergy on my vacation I am trying to enjoy. By allowing pets you are saying people with allergies or asthma are unable to stay at your resorts. Yes, you are accomadating people with pets but you could accomadate everyone by keeping your policy as is. Pets are nice to have but put them in a kennel or leave them at home. Also what would you do if your employees are allergic or housekeeping staff?
* Also when a pet is inside a home it is very hard to keep clean. The hair that is shed from dogs and cats is impossible to get rid of. It would make them harder to clean and personally I would not be likely to stay at a place that has animal hair all over.
* Not only for cleaning reasons should animals not be allowed but what if the dog/cat destroys the furniture and linens, it would be a loss the the resort.

I know it is impossible to please everyone but by not allowing dogs and cats in the buildings you are able to allow those with allergies and asthma to come that otherwise would not be able to. Please consider keeping the following policy.

A concerned West Virginia Resident

Tricia Sizemore

From: sogame@verizon.net
ent: Saturday, July 02, 2005 9:00 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets



Pets in state parks.doc (33 KB...

Dear Ms. Sizemore --

Comments from my wife and me regarding the proposal to allow pets in state park cabins and possibly lodge rooms are contained in the attached Microsoft Word document.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Russ Johnson

Russell & Eileen Johnson
416 Sheffield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601

July 2, 2005

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks
State Capital Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Re: Public Comments regarding Pets

Via US Mail and e-mail

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal to introduce legislation that would allow pets in State Park cabins and lodge rooms. I am a native West Virginian and have had the pleasure of enjoying the State Parks for over 40 years. My wife and I have been loyal visitors to the State Parks over the years and have enjoyed both cabins and lodge rooms at these parks. We are also members of the VIPP group and look forward to continuing with our regular visits.

We are members of the Holly River State Park Foundation and our contributions to that organization support continuing improvements at the park and to the cabins. I don't want those improvements to be placed at risk because of an ill advised decision to allow pets in the cabins.

I believe that allowing pets in the cabins is a bad idea. My wife and I suffer from allergies and I am certain that pet dander would linger in the cabins and cause discomfort. I am certain that other guests with allergies would voice the same objection.

It is likely that guests would allow their pets to sleep or lie on the furniture, particularly the beds. I know it is not presently the practice of the park staff to launder the bedspreads after every guest. If pets were allowed, the practice of laundering the bedspread after each guest would become a necessity. This would hold true for the lodge rooms as well, thereby increasing the cleaning and maintenance costs to the State and necessitating the replacement of bedspreads and other furniture more often.

Pets in the cabins would greatly increase the risk that the cabins would become infested with fleas or ticks. Either pest would pose health problems for the guests or the park staff and may require the replacement of mattresses.

With pets in the cabins, I would have concerns about guests feeding their pets using the cabin china. The park cabins do not have dishwashers and I know from my visits that

some of the previous guests in our cabins are lax in their dishwashing skills. I find it very unappealing to think about eating off of a plate after the dog at a previous visit licked that same plate clean. For guests to be certain that their dishware is clean, it would be necessary for each new set of guests to completely wash and dry all of the dishes and cookware before the first use, thereby diminishing the enjoyment of their stay.

I have spoken with the housekeepers at some parks and know from their firsthand accounts that some of the guests do not take care of the cabins. I am told that some guests leave the cabins quite filthy and cause extra work on the part of the staff to clean them up. If guests will do such things to a cabin when there are only people there, I shudder to think what may occur if they bring their pet with them. Cleaning up after the pets would require more time on the part of the staff and may necessitate hiring additional staff to handle the chore.

Of particular concern is the idea of guests bringing their hunting dogs to the rustic cabins at Seneca and Kumbrabow. I fear the damage that could be caused by these dogs could be considerable.

I can see no good that would come from approving this proposed legislation. It would unquestionably drive up the cost of cleaning and maintaining the cabins and lodge rooms and those added costs translate into higher rental rates for all guests. Damage to the cabins and rooms would result, plus the lingering dander and dirt would cause discomfort to subsequent guests. Without question, pets in the cabins would reduce the enjoyment that many of the guests experience at the parks.

It is my belief that the vast majority of guests would prefer not to have pets in the cabins. It is my sincere hope that this proposed legislation is not approved nor supported by the State Park system. I believe West Virginia has the finest State Park system in the nation and an ill-advised decision to allow pets in the lodge rooms and cabins will diminish the appeal of the State Parks to me, my wife and certainly many others.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment and I will appreciate your support.

Very Truly Yours,

Russell W. Johnson

Eileen B. Johnson

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jeanne Dean [jjag3@comporium.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 02, 2005 8:10 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

May I simply say that I am against for all the reasons ie wet dog smell in the cabin is like an old ashtray in a motel room. There is the problem of pet feces in the area, barking dog etc etc. Don't do it. It will change the character of your parks. Compare the no of people that own pets to those that don't. The ones that don't will stay away. Guy

Tricia Sizemore

From: pda24486@juno.com
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 9:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I'am not in favor of this proposal.Wife and I have stay two times in cabins and lodge this year.We would stop if this is pass.This is a bad idea. paul & bonnie armstrong

Tricia Sizemore

From: Joe Wineke [joew@wpia.net]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 4:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

We have been renting cabins and lodge rooms at Blackwater Falls and other parks since 1987 and are very much opposed to the idea of pets in cabins or lodge rooms. It would certainly increase your maintenance and renovation costs which you would need to pass on to your renters. We are quite familiar with the serious problems caused by the carelessness or incompetence of some pet owners and you would have no way of screening them out.

We have good friends who are devoted and considerate pet owners: when they travel, they board their dogs and cat. That seems like the best solution for everyone.

Joe and Susan Wineke

Tricia Sizemore

From: William and Mable Smarr [mscs2@ntelos.net]

Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 1:32 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not think they should be allowed. A lot of people have allergies to pets. It would also be more cleaning for the staff. If you do allow pets to stay there should be pet rooms or pet cabins only. I also think the guest should have to pay more for the room or cabin to cover the cost of cleaning up after a pet. Thank You, Mable Smarr

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Oakes [jobowv_2000@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 12:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about peeets

My husband & I love the state parks & we like dogs. We spent two nights in a cabin in June with family members about three weeks ago. We were overcome with mice and carpenter ants. We had a very good time despite being afraid to go to bed. The mice were running everywhere - across the dressers and into food. We were able to provide a snack for the snakes as we were able to catch one in a trap. If you add to these critters a possibility of fleas if dogs are allowed, we're headed to the lodge. Our grandchildren spent lots of time playing in the area around the cabin thankful there wasn't any poop. Being outside was very peaceful with no dogs barking like we get quite often at home. It looks as though we will be out voted on this, but my family is voting a definite "NO".

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty and Jamie [jpbaisden@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, July 01, 2005 11:44 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Legislation to Allow Pets in State Parks Cabins

I have rented WV State Park cabins in MANY of your State Parks and go to several every year. I would prefer that animals NOT be allowed in cabins. I am a dog lover and own pets but do not think they should be in cabins. The clean up required will sky rocket and it will be virtually impossible to get pet hair out of the cabins between guests. The cabin area outside could be effected also by people less then vigilante in "scooping poop". This could also effect guests with allergies.

While I am an animal lover, I do NOT think you should allow animals in State Park cabins.
Patty Baisden

Tricia Sizemore

From: Becky Carter [beckycarter@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 5:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Don Caruth
Subject: PUBLIC COMMENT ABOUT PETS

Dear Tricia,

I am opposed to allowing pets in the cabins or lodge rooms in our WV State Parks. I love animals, but I think it will be detrimental to our parks and their environment, if pets are allowed inside the facilities. Two obvious reasons are pets soiling the floors, beds and furniture and the possibility of ticks and fleas after a pet is inside. Also, with dogs and cats in the area where others are sleeping or relaxing, the noise of barking or howling could disturb guests. In addition, pets inside and outside the cabin and lodge area would create more work for the people who clean and maintain the facilities.

We are frequent visitors to our parks, so I thank you for giving me an opportunity to comment on this possible policy change. Our state parks are a wonderful asset to this state and they provide excellent opportunities for very enjoyable outdoor activities and experiences. I hope our legislature does not pass legislation to change the peaceful, clean and pleasant environment.

Sincerely,
Rebecca H. Carter

cc: Senator Donald T. Caruth

Tricia Sizemore

From: Timothy Pauley [timothypauley@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2005 10:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

I am writing on behalf of a postcard my parent received about the publi c comments concerning pets in cabins and lodge rooms. We believe that unless it is a seeing eye dog, that pets should not be allowed in the cabins and lodge rooms. Although we have pets ourselves, we know that they c an have accidents and unless properly cared for can smell.

WV is a beautiful state and the State Parks are wonderful getaways for adults and children. Pets should be left at home. We have 1 0 people in our immediate family and would like all 10 opinions to coun t as a "NO" to pets being allowed in the rooms.

Tim Pauley
James Pauley
Carol Pauley
Mary Pauley
Caitlin Pauley
Emily Pauley
Zachary Pauley
Nancy Creighton
Dennie Burns
Sara Burns

Thank you.

Tim Pauley
710 Regency Drive
Charleston, WV 25314

James Pauley
836 Chestnut Street
South Charleston, WV 25309

Tricia Sizemore

From: Edward Houk [ed_houk@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 11:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Dear Mr. Pope:

I have used the cabins at several WV state parks as well as the houses at Cass. We always have had an enjoyable stay. I am not an anti-pet person. But, I do not believe allowing pets into the cabins or Cass homes is a good idea. Most pet owners are responsible. Unfortunately there are those who are not. The park staff cannot determine in advance who is and who is not responsible. This will lead to fleas, pet hair, pet waste and pet smell in the cabins. I have friends who have pets and care for them properly. But, when I enter many of their homes, quite frankly they stink. I will not rent a place like this. When we had a pet we put it in a kennel when we traveled. This should be standard procedure.

We are now RVers and are currently working in a campground that permits pets. We get to see first hand just how irresponsible many pet owners are. We don't want to see this in your cabin areas. We still enjoy a visit to one of your cabins even though we have the RV.

Keep up the great work. We are VIPP members and we love WV state parks. Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.

Regards,
Edward Houk
1735 Shanwick Ct.
Forest Hill, MD 21050

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Tricia Sizemore

From: TomK [tomk@zoomnet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 10:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

My wife and I received the card requesting public comments on the subject of allowing animals in the park cabins and lodge rooms and felt we should voice an opinion on the subject. We are strongly opposed to the idea of allowing pets into either lodge rooms or cabins. I suffer from allergies and I believe that allowing pets into the rooms and cabins of the parks would make it unpleasant for me to stay there. It may be possible to clean the rooms thoroughly enough to prevent an allergic reaction but I doubt it is practical to do so. I suppose we sort of feel let down by this in a way. We have stayed at various parks over the years, both in cabins and in lodge rooms, and have always found the parks to be a very nice place to call home while on trips. We may not have known anything about a park first hand but we have always felt that as long as it was a state park it would be a very good choice. We are concerned that allowing animals to stay in the parks will make the parks a less enjoyable place to stay. I don't mean to sound critical of the cleaning staff at the parks. They have always been first class both in the quality of their work and in dealing with them as individuals, but there will be problems. It is simply unavoidable. There will be fleas, there will be odors from 'accidents', there will be loose hair, there will be animal dander. This is just not a good situation. Please give a great deal of thought to the proposal of allowing animals into lodge rooms or cabins. We believe it would be a serious mistake.

Tom and Elizabeth Kennedy
Box 838
Pineville, WV 24874

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rbshoem@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 10:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I have traveled the US and find the the WV Park cabins are the best. I enjoy the wood floors and walls throughout their construction. To allow pets, especially dogs into these cabins is asking for major problems. When an animal does its "business" in an area, any wood will absorb the urine and the smell will linger for years. Like Smoke in a motel room, once it is there, no matter what you do, you can't get the smell out. Using strong perfumes will not help, and probably only make those of us who use the cabins allergic to the smells. PLEASE KEEP PETS OUT OF THE CABINS. If by chance this does not prevail, then restrict the animals to one or two cabins, only those cabins are ruined...

Dr. Robert E. Shoemaker
Timonium, MD 21093

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lynn Takane [ltakane@nctm.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 9:58 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do NOT allow pets in cabins and lodges. I have sons with asthma. They can handle some allergies (like pollen and outdoors), but if you add animal dander, they have a major reaction. Animal dander puts some people in physical danger and a trip to a hospital (not always close in the parks). This may put the state at a legal liability.

I can always tell when a hotel has had an animal in it. (even if it's cleaned). The boys always end up wheezing. It's unfortunate that some people value their dogs more than fellow humans.

Thank you for listening
Lynn Takane

Tricia Sizemore

From: richardkazmierski Kazmierski [richardkazmierski@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 6:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom it May Concern,
I read this and couldn't believe that anyone would consider letting pets in the cabins or maybe lodges. First, I must say I love my dog and have had dogs all my life, 45 years of it, but I leave my dog at home. When I go to the state parks, out of consideration of people, wildlife and plantlife of the this state, my dog needs to be at home. My dog is well mannered and very sweet, but dogs are dogs.

1. Not all people follow the rules and are very willing to bend them to their advantage. I live close to a city park and there are signs posted "ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH". So many times I see people just letting their dogs run. The parks don't have enough staff to enforce the rules and they can't be everywhere at the same time. I have a neighbor that puts her very large dog on a lease and just lets it go. The dog ends up bothering the people at the picnic areas. If anyone says anything to her she just replies, "My dog is on a leash".

2. When dog owners go to the back area of the trail, they will let their dogs run, knowing that there are fewer people and they can get by with it. I walk often on the back trail to bird watch, as soon as these dogs go running through, the birds are gone. I have to feel that dogs do have an impact on wildlife.

My son and I do a Point Count Survey (bird survey) at Twin Falls State Park. Along the Hemlock Trail, there are many Ovenbirds, Black and White Warblers and many other birds that nest on or near the ground. There are Swainson's Warblers on the Nature Trail and Cliffside Trail. Are you willing to risk the nest, nestlings and young fledglings, just so a dog or cat can be in the park?!!! What kind of count would we get if dogs went through the trail?

3. No nice way to put it, dogs and cats go to the bathroom a lot! Over at the park, there are boxes put up along the trail with bags for scooping up dog poop. Most people don't use them, the dogs poop beside and on the trail, for all to smell. The people that do use the bags for dog doo, put the bags in the trash cans not far from the picnic areas, so people coming to picnic get to smell it. For those people that let their dogs run, you have to watch where you step.

4. When one dog barks they all bark, that's just their nature. When I go to a state park, it is for peace and quiet.

5. Liability- Is the state going to be liable if a dog or cat is injured or killed in a state park? Is the state going to be liable if a dog or cat injures a person or that person's pet?

6. I haven't said much about Cats. CATS KILL! Cats kill millions of birds and small animals.

7. Cats spray inside and out. It is almost impossible to get the smell off of something that a cat sprayed. If I pay for a room or a cabin, I don't want it to smell like cat (or dog) pee.

8. If a few cats would get loose, this could start a feral colony of cats. Who is going to control that problem?

9. When was the last time you have seen a cat on a leash?

10. A dog or cat can not tell if a plant species is rare! Enough said there.

Please consider all of these points and encourage people to leave their pets at home!

Thank You,
Kim Kazmierski

Tricia Sizemore

From: BEVERSGIRL@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 6:21 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I AM AGAINST ALLOWING PETS IN LODGING AREAS- I GO TO THESE AREAS FOR PEACE & QUIET, TO ENJOY NATURE, NOT TO HEAR BARKING DOGS ALL NIGHT & TO STEP IN DOG DOO WHILE I'M OUT WALKING. I CAN DO THAT AT HOME.
THANK YOU
KIMBERLY BEVER

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ed Rehbein [happyhiker1@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 4:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Dear Tricia Sizemore,

We love to go to cabins at WV state parks, and have been to several different parks over the years. The peace and quiet of the cabin areas is so appealing to us, and we strongly feel that allowing pets, especially dogs, to stay in the cabins would be detrimental to the peaceful atmosphere. There is nothing worse than a yapping dog in an otherwise serene setting. Also, in our opinion, the cleanliness factor of having dogs and cats in the cabins would detract from the appeal of the cabins.

We are not in favor at all of allowing pets in the state park cabins. Thank you for allowing us to voice our opinion.

Sincerely,
Ed and Phyllis Rehbein

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wood County Solid Waste Authority [wcswa@charterinternet.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 4:47 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Parks

RE: Pets

I DO NOT believe pets should be permitted overnight in state park cabins or lodge rooms.

Some people are allergic to animals. If they stayed in a room that had pets in it earlier, it could affect their allergies.

Some dogs when placed outside would bark and disturb other guest. They would also leave a mess outside.

In other states, when animals have been in the guest rooms, fleas have been a problem.

I have two dogs, and I stay at the in the WV State Parks several times a year. And I pay to board my dogs at a kennel each time.

Sincerely,

Russell and Garnet Park

Route 1, Box 345
Washington, WV 26181

Tricia Sizemore

From: Myers, John [john.myers@cingular.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 4:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Sir:
I do not think that this is a good idea, this would mean added cleanup for the housekeeping staff.
Once a pet is in the house for any length of time, it is hard to remove the odor of that pet.
I vote NO on allowing pets in cabins or lodge rooms in the state parks.

Regards,

John Myers
Cingular Wireless LLC.
West Virginia Market
Sr. RF Engineer
917 Midland Trail
Hurricane, WV 25526
Office 304-562-1882
GSM 304-634-8380
FAX 304-562-1847
e-mail john.myers@cingular.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Noff937@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 11:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We believe it would be a bad pollicy to allow pets in cabins and lodge rooms. Too many people have allergies to animals and once pet hair is in a place it's almost impossible to remove it. I wouldn't want to sleep in a bed that someone's pet had slept in.

Tricia Sizemore

From: TightLineWV@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 11:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do not allow pets in or around cabins or lodge rooms at WV State Parks. One of the reason we go to State Parks is to get away from the constant barking of, my inconsiderate neighbors, dogs.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Childress Cindy [Cindy.Childress@HCAHealthcare.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2005 10:28 AM

To: triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov.

Subject: Public Comment About Pets in WV Parks and Cabins

Our experiences with pets in **campgrounds** are not pleasant ones. Last year, we were backing our camper into a spot at Holly River and rolled through dog feces. These are usually not stray dogs. Campers let them run loose, bark at everyone riding and walking by and never consider the other campers. They leave the camp site during the day and leave the dogs in the campers or tied up outside. They don't hear them barking while they are gone.

We have spent time at Lake Sherwood. This is not a state run area but it is a campground and our experiences there are just as bad. My sister-in-law stepped in dog feces in our campsite and had it in the camper and tent before she realized it. The people next to us just let the dogs run loose and stay out late at night.

In regard to **cabins**, we have thought about trying to reserve one but we look at the pet aspect. You cannot clean between reservations and get rid of pet dander, hair, slobber and etc.. This is impossible. I have had cats and I am very aware of the hair and difficulty in keeping clean. Cats are easier to keep clean if you do it.

Most people are very inconsiderate. But this is the way they do at home.

I just wanted to voice my opinion against pets in cabins and campgrounds. The Rangers try but cannot continually keep after people. Some people do not heed the warnings. Some of the campground personnel are college students and campers ignore them.

Thanks for your consideration in this matter.

Cindy Childress

Tricia Sizemore

From: Duane Jones [dmaddj@wirefire.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 9:49 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I just spent a week a Watoga State Park in the Beaver Creek Campground and if the management of animals in the cabins or lodge rooms is no better than the campgrounds I would really be disappointed if they allow it. There are rules in the campgrounds but they are not followed and I've yet to see anyone confronted by officials. Twice I had to chase off dogs that were about to urinate on my camping equipment. I confronted one owner and reminded him of the rules. The owner just turned around, dragged his dog by the collar back to his own campsite but never restrained the dog after that, allowing them to run loose for the last two days I was there. One even chased my son while he was riding his bike in the area. I feel the same thing will happen if people are allowed to take their animals with them into cabins and lodge rooms. Guess we'll all need to start carrying pepper spray in our state parks.

Duane E. Jones
4202 Cypress Street
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Tricia Sizemore

From: MiBaholland@cs.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 6:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

I would prefer that guests not be allowed to keep pets in cabins or lodge rooms because my wife is allergic to animal fur. The odor from accidents that pets have has a tendency to build up after a while no matter how much cleaning is done. We also have grandchildren who have allergies and can't stay in rooms where animals have been. We enjoy staying in WV State Parks and hope we are not deprived of this because animals are allowed in the rooms.

Mike & Barbara Holland

Tricia Sizemore

From: William Wain [williamwain@access995.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 6:19 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Thank you for the opportunity to express our comments regarding park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and elsewhere, including lodges.

In a word - **NO**.

Granted, our opinion may be slightly prejudiced by the fact that this is our seventh consecutive summer as camp ground hosts at Beech Fork State Park and, while we have not had to clean the cabins, we do regularly pick up litter and other items left by campers - and their dogs - at their campsites. Most campers usually are aware of what they may leave and do their best to clean up after themselves. But there is always the few who don't, and those are the ones who will ruin it for all.

We're sure most cabin guests would be very careful to be sure their pets do not leave any trace of their presence, but sooner or later evidence of a dog sleeping in the bed, walking/lying on the dining table, using the deck or front yard as a toilet, or, even worse, leaving droppings inside the cabin in a remote corner under furniture will occur. The next cabin guest will not appreciate finding what cleaners missed, even though they did their best when cleaning.

The cabins are currently off limits for pets - let's keep it that way!

Yes, we have a dog ourselves.

William & Loretta Wain
3814 Brandon Road
Huntington WV 25704-1110

williamwain@access995.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bill Miller [whmiller1@core.com]
ent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 5:38 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Mr. Pope
Accommodations for humans should be restricted to use by humans. I strongly oppose establishing policies that would allow animals of any kind to occupy cabins or Lodge rooms. State Park cabins and Lodge facilities, when rented, become an extension of our homes. Every taker of a public accommodation should, within reason, be able to expect that the facility to be rented has been used by prior occupiers in a manner consistent with established norms for hygiene employed in their own homes. Although many people keep cats and dogs as pets, I would suspect many of these same people would not welcome pets owned by others into their homes. Smoking restrictions are now, nearly everywhere, the rule rather than the exception. We should not substitute for the residues left behind by smokers things like fleas, pet hair, saliva, body oils, paw soil, and occasional excrement on the floors & carpets, the beds & chairs and other furnishing in the accommodations you provide. Total clean up of pet "leave behinds" by your housekeeping staff would be as impossible as attempting to remove all traces of tobacco use from a sleeping room. Perfumes and deodorizers are good but sometimes even they become offensive when used as a substitute for a thorough cleaning.

I can think of several other non-hygienic reasons for restricting pets from living quarters. Among these include the following:

1-A dog's behavior in a strange environment can often be very unpredictable. This is contrary to the claims of most dog owners! But then I have never heard a dog owner exclaim to a passing group, "My dog bites". It is always "Don't worry, he or she is friendly". And, they aren't always "friendly". Consider the inevitable meeting of a dog with a family including small children in the hallway of a Lodge. The children are excited and in passing, one of them is injured by the "over friendly" animal. It is the exception when dog owners are in full control at all times. Liability for such injuries would fall to the "deepest pocket" and that would quite likely be the State. Insurance premiums are set, as is well known, by claims xperience. 2-State Park lodges often have restaurant facilities attached. To my knowledge, most restaurants do not allow animals in their establishment. If the cafe ban is imposed on dog and cat owners who are occupying cabins or lodge rooms, it is certain to happen that an owner will leave a cat or dog in the room while dining. Animals in "captivity" will feel threatened and invariably start howling -- thus disturbing adjacent room residents. Enforcement of a "Don't leave your pet in the room unaccompanied" policy or rule would require constant surveillance by Park personnel. And at what cost?
3- Individuals bringing cats or dogs to cabin facilities invite the sure conflict between the "haves" and the "have nots". It will happen! Pet owners in residence at a cabin can hardly be expected to keep their dog tied up all the time or their cat in the cabin. Tie them up and barking or screeching will ensue. Let them loose, and the dogs especially, will be at their neighbors grill site. It is no win situation.

Thank you, Mr. Pope, for the opportunity to speak out on this issue. Quite honestly, I use the WV State Parks because the facilities are so nice. Quiet and solitude away from urban noise and chaos is what I travel so far from home for. Let pet owners find someone else to tend their animals while they are on vacation. I don't want to do so --- and I suspect you wouldn't want to either.

Sincerely,
Bill Miller
Brecksville, OH 44141

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wayne Perry [wmperry@countryroadswv.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 3:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To: John R. Pope:

We are definitely against pets allowed to stay in state parks and lodge rooms. We have had some bad experiences with them in campgrounds. We are definitely against legislation permitting this.

Wayne and Ina Perry
Rt. 2, Box 245
Buckhannon, WV 26201

Tricia Sizemore

From: Internetman3@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 12:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am unconditionally against allowing pets to stay in cabins or lodge rooms in State Parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Suzy [suzymeadows@myway.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 10:24 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Tricia,

As frequent visitors to the parks, my husband and I, DO NOT think it would be a good idea to allow pets in cabins and lodge rooms.
We are pet owners ourselves (both dogs and cats), but just a couple of un-responsible people could destroy the cleanliness and ambiance of the cabins.
Some pets are destructive when left behind by their owners, and a lot of owners would not clean up after their pets. It is one thing to have to watch where you step in public day areas, but to have to watch out for dog poop around your cabin is out of the question.
It just would not be fair to park employees, to have to clean up these messes all the way around each cabin lot either.
Some of the other cabin renters are loud enough and keep you up all night, please do not add barking dogs to the mix.

Thanks for listening.

Suzy Meadows

suzymeadows@myway.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Jeffery P. Wargo [jwargo@weir.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 6:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Mr. Pope,

I believe that state parks should be keep pet free. I am an animal owner myself, and love my pets dearly. However when I visit one of the state parks it is usually to relax and enjoy the quiet peace of nature. If we allow pets into the parks, I believe that peace will be interrupted. The state of West Virginia has created a beautiful park network and I would hate to see it degraded. I know you feel the some way, but us we both know, there are many others who would not share in that opinion. Unfortunately in this world if you allow some people to take a yard, they will take a mile instead. Even though it is unfair to the rest of us to make us follow rules to prevent a few from taking advantage of the parks, I believe it is in the best interest of the quality of the parks to do so.

Jeffery P. Wargo
102 North 10th Street
Weirton, West Virginia 26062
Home phone: (304) 748-0528

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No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Anti-Virus.
Version: 7.0.323 / Virus Database: 267.8.1/28 - Release Date: 6/24/05

Tricia Sizemore

From: leon valentine [lvalentine@zzzip.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 5:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am against the proposal to allow pets in our State Parks and Lodges. Mary Ann Valentine

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pessagno [jp_ee9set@cox.net]
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 3:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Generally, we oppose the rule change.

If decision is made to allow pets, recommend:
Pets be allowed only in specially designated rooms/cabins. I.e. Policy should be similar to that applying to smoking and non-smoking rooms/cabins. Strict rules for and enforcement of leash requirement.

Rationale: Pets cause following problems:
1. Odor that is difficult to eliminate.
2. Flea and other vector infestation.
3. Allergy effects.
4. Increase janitorial / clean-up effiort - inside as well as outside. You can be sure that some guests with pets will NOT adequately clean up after their animal(s) - waste, food, hair, and etc.
5. Physical damage to facility(ies) and water contamination.
6. Potential conflict with local natural wildlife.

Take care, V/R
John and Elizabeth Pessagno

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:38 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets

-----Original Message-----
From: Ed Griffith [mailto:egriffith_1@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 4:18 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets

I would like to express my opinion on pets in cabins and lodges. I am totally against allowing pets to stay in these locations. Visiting a park should not include cleaning pet hair off clothes after visits, putting up with yapping pooches or smelling dirty carpets. In campgrounds may be OK if they are not constantly barking or nipping at children trying to play and be kids.

Ed Griffith
Princeton, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2005 10:37 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in West Virginia Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Hess, Sandy [mailto:shes3@allstate.com]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 10:31 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in West Virginia Parks

Pets don't belong in our park facilities. Allergens linger long after the animal is gone, and to subject people to those allergens when it is not absolutely necessary is wrong. West Virginia's parks are beautiful public places where people go to relax and get away from it all. Coughing, sneezing, and wheezing inside, and having to watch where you step outside because many pet owners will not clean up after themselves is no vacation.

My husband and I occasionally take our children in the evening to Dairy Queen on Teays Valley Road in Scott Depot, grab a bite to eat, and then play on the playground equipment at Scott Teays Elementary School. We were there a couple of weeks ago and watched a woman drive down a residential street, get out of her car with her dog at the playground, walk the dog, let it pee on one piece of the playground equipment, then let it poop in the grass right where the children play, then leave the mess and walk the dog right back to the car, get in, and drive off without so much as a backward glance. I was livid. That is EXACTLY what will happen in the park system if pets are allowed. Such inconsideration and filth may not be a big deal to some people, but to most it's incomprehensible. I realize that many pet owners do clean up the messes but by the same token, many do not. **Let's let people leave their pets at home and keep our parks pristine.**

Thank you for giving the public the opportunity to voice opinions.

Sandy Hess
PO Box 300
Scott Depot WV 25560

6/27/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: M. Chinault [mchinault@charter.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 8:46 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: "public comment about pets"

I would not be in favor of letting guests keep pets in lodging or rooms. This is very offensive to me and my wife just like smoking. I like pets as well as anybody but keep them outdoors. Thanks, Melvin Chinault, PO Box 3, Peterstown, WV 24963

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mrstump17241@wmconnect.com
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 7:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

No way!!!! If I want ticks and fleas, I'll get a dog. I like to rest in peace, not scratch all night. I'am wont even mention the people who don't clean up after their animals.

Tricia Sizemore

From: june mcnickle [biju@zzzip.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 5:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

We are in hopes that there will "NEVER" be cats or dogs allowed in our State Park Cabins or lodge rooms. Our number one reason is - our daughter is extremely allergic to cats. She would be very uncomfortable if she were in a room where there had been cats in it recently. If you know anyone with allergies you know what I am saying.

Thank you for considering our comment.

Willian & June dMcNickle
1305 Clyde Street
Parkersburg, WV ;26101

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bigredeve@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, June 26, 2005 3:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom It May Concern,

PLEASE! NO PETS, for over night guests at the state parks.

My family and I enjoy the wildlife and natural fauna that resides in your parks. I would hate to think of the damage that "pets" would do. Running deer, biting other guests, K-nine land mines, etc. Just remember, that lost or abandon pets, "ferial" animals are a menace.

Thank you for listening to my point of view.
Sincerely,
Gary L. Fisher
Bigredeve@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: john manchester [jmanchester@citynet.net]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 10:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

To whom it may concern:

i am firmly against allowing pets in state park cabins. one of the costs of pet ownership is finding a pet sitter or kennel. don't burden people who want to get away from dogs barking by allowing folks to bring pets to state park accommodations.

why should i have to worry about fleas being left behind in a room i am am renting for the night?

pets in the cabins--a very bad idea.

john manchester 413 frazier st., lewisburg wv 24901

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cordie122@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 3:33 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Public Comments about pets in State Park Cabins and Lodges

Having been a career State Park employee and a yearly renter of state park cabins for mine and my extended family's vacations, I feel well qualified to comment on the pet issue.

First, it has come to my attention that groups of pet owners have organized and are flooding the DNR with comments which likely will skew results in their favor. The best and only fair way to judge whether or not pets should be allowed in cabins and, heaven forbid, lodge rooms would be to poll only those people who use state parks through room and cabin comment cards.

Second, state parks at one time did allow dogs in cabins, but guests who followed those with pets complained of dog odors, pet dander and hair, which could not be removed without hours of cleaning. The dog feces in the lawn was a constant aggravation to other guests. Dogs barking when left alone in cabins was also a source of complaints. While pet owners love their pets, people who are not pet owners and are in the majority do not want their vacation disturbed by an animal brought into unfamiliar surroundings.

Third, park superintendents had a very difficult time collecting for damages, such as scratching of doors, destroying hundreds of dollars worth of bed linens, curtains and hardwood floors stained with dog urine.

Fourth, not too many years ago we conducted a legitimate poll among park users - e.g., day use only visitors, campers, cabin guests and lodge guests and the results showed that most West Virginians do not want dogs in state park cabins. I can't believe the attitude of West Virginians has changed on this issue.

Last, as you should know, the lodge rooms are not as soundproof as should be and while dogs have never been allowed in lodge rooms, from time to time guests did surreptitiously take a dog in. As soon as the guest left the room for any reason, the switchboard would light up as the dogs began barking and disturbing large numbers of guests. Moreover, all lodge rooms are carpeted and while dog owners think it is cute for their dogs to scoot across the room to scratch their anus, no one wanted to be the next guest in the room. Also it is possible that fleas, ticks and other vermin are carried into the lodge contaminating theirs and adjoining rooms. While it may be appropriate to conduct a one year experiment in certain cabins, with a hefty security deposit, it would be unconscionable to allow a dog into a lodge room.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Cordie O. Hudkins, Jr.

Tricia Sizemore

From: gparn@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 8:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in park facilities

John Pope

I am writing to voice my opinion against pets in park cabins and rooms. I have been staying park facilities all over WV since I was young. I am a pet owner and know first hand the messes they can make. I am completly against any pets being allowed in any facility. You will never be able to get the facilities clean or gurantee that I can stay in a facility that has never had pets staying in them. Even if people have their pets go outside the pets and individuals will track the waste into the facility. The last thing I want is to step or smell the pets waste while at a WV park. Please do not allow this to happen.

George Parnicza Jr.
3531 Riverview Drive
Weirton, WV. 26062
304-797-8286

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mother4000@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 10:47 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Have you ever gone to stay at a place, (motel, lodge or hotel,)and after you walked into a room fleas jump on your ankles? I have and I will not stay at a place where animals are allowed to stay.

I do not think pets should be allowed to stay in rooms. Leave them home. I leave mine home when I go to stay somewhere.

Thank You.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sam Hays [5fishsam@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, June 24, 2005 7:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am against a rule change. Any place I stay where pets are allowed has dog or cat hair on the carpets and furniture and many misplaced piles of doo-doo in the yard and usually smells. Keep it the same, please.

Tricia Sizemore

om: Elisa Braver [elisabraver@hotmail.com]
ent: Friday, June 24, 2005 1:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Dear Mr. Pope:

I am writing to express my opposition to allowing pets in state park lodges, unless they are needed for people with visiual or hearing impairments. I and others in my family suffer from severe allergies, including asthma, when exposed to furry animals. When we stay in a lodge, we'd like not to suffer allergic reactions from the previous occupant's pets.

For cabins, perhaps some could be designated as for pets and the rest as pets-free. This would permit allergic people to stay in cabins in which pets have not been present.

Thank you very much for considering my comments. We love West Virginia and its state parks and intend to spend many more vacations here.

Elisa Braver
9508 Clement Rd.
Silver Spring, MD 20910
ebraver@starpower.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: John and Floy Boyle [omf02287@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 10:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

John and I are against allowing pets in the cabins and lodge rooms. Our biggest objection to allowing pets in the rooms is because John is allergic to cats and we do enjoy our parks.

Thank You,
John and Floy Boyle

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rebert, Andrew [Andrew.Rebert@ErieInsurance.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 2:41 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

NO!!!! ABSOLUTELY NOT!!!!...PETS WILL DAMAGE THE FACILITIES, DISTURB OTHERS, CREATE LIABILITY FOR THE PARK, CHASE AWAY WILDLIFE, AND BE A GENERAL NUISANCE. I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP IN A BED THAT WAS OCCUPIED BY SOMEONES FLEA RIDDEN "PET" THE WEEK BEFORE. IF THEY WANT TO TAKE "THEIR" PETS ON VACATION, LET THEM GO TO DISNEYWORLD. MAYBE THEY HAVE "PET ATTRACTIONS" THERE. OR BETTER YET, HOW ABOUT NEW YORK CITY DOGGIE RESTAURANTS. THEY CAN ALL EAT AT THE SAME TABLE. YOUR PARKS ARE A DISAPPEARING BREED OF BEAUTIFUL RETREATS THAT SHOULD BE PRESERVED FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. I REALIZE THE WV PARK SYSTEM MAY SEE THIS PROPOSED "ACCOMMODATION" TO THE PET CROWD AS A REVENUE BOOST BUT WHEN I VISIT YOUR PARKS I'M NOT INTERESTED IN DEALING WITH THE NEIGHBORS OUT OF CONTROL DOMESTIC STOCK. I GET ENOUGH OF THAT SORT OF THING AT HOME. I'M INTERESTED IN THE NATURAL SETTING THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS IN YOUR SYSTEM AND HAVE NO PROBLEM PAYING HIGHER FEES OR TAXES TO KEEP THE JEWELS IN THE CROWN!!

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Carol Stewart
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 11:51 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about pets

Hello Tricia,

I am strongly opposed to allowing pets in the cabins or possibly in the lodge rooms. I feel that people who have allergies will be at risk after someone's pet has been allowed into the room. Also more cleaning would be required after pets are in the room, and this would result in higher costs. I feel this would be a drastic mistake to allow the rules to change! Please keep our parks "pet free" and save the additional maintenance fees. I am in the VIPP & Hiking program and I visit the parks often.

Carol Stewart
5216 Beechcrest Drive
Charleston, WV 25313

Tricia Sizemore

From: twilson@specialmetals.com
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2005 11:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not think allowing pets in cabins or lodge rooms is a good idea. Anyone that has an animal allergy would be at risk of a reaction if pets were allowed in cabins or rooms. Allowing pets in cabins or rooms would be restricting the amount of people who could use the facilities. I think it would be better to serve all possible clients instead of limiting who could use the facilities. No manner of cleaning will remove all evidence of animals being in the cabins or lodge rooms. Because of my wife's allergies, I for one could not use any facility that allows pets in the rooms. Would the state be liable if someone had a reaction and died?

Troy Wilson
Huntington, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mike Tabak [tabak2@juno.com]
ent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 10:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: No Pets

I stayed overnite at two state parks so far for 2005 and have two more stays planned. And if you start letting cats & dogs stay in the lodges that's when my wife and I stop coming to your state park lodges to stay overnite. Call me on this matter ASAP. Call me at 724-864-1841.

Mike Tabak
800 Whitehead Lane
N.Huntingdon,Pa.15642

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary E Enoch [gary.e.enoch@aexp.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 8:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Thank you for requesting my comments concerning pets in our State Park facilities.

I am a pet lover, but I don't like the idea of pets in our State Park cabins or Lodges. My concern is that permitting pets would add an expense burden to Park system, not to mention the potential for complaints that can be disruptive for all.

Gary E Enoch
Route 2 Box 662
Milton, WV 25541

American Express made the following
annotations on 06/22/05 17:42:17

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Tricia Sizemore

From: John Sheets [jjsheets@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 8:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear WVDNR,
If it is imperative that guests cannot stay overnight without their pet with them (or vice versa) then at least allow only one cabin as a "pet" cabin, and certainly no pets in the lodges. That way the pet owners can enjoy the fleas and odors of previous pet guests, as well as their own. I can assure you I would never knowingly stay in a room which had housed a pet and would not wish to have a barking dog anywhere near me in the lodge. Will they also be allowed to join their owners in the dining rooms? Regards, John Sheets

Tricia Sizemore

From: KLCashdollar@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 8:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am allergic to cats and I know of others who are allergic to dogs. If you allow pets into WV State Park cabins and lodges, we will no longer be able to stay at WV parks.

I am a VIPP and participate in Hiking WV. I usually come to WV State Parks for two vacations every year. If you change your policy on pets, I will be forced to change my future vacation plans.

Kenneth Cashdollar
1376 Quail Run Circle
Bethel Park, PA 15102

phone: 412-833-1487
e-mail: KLCashdollar@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: tranquilitywv [tranquilitywv@verizon.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 7:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Doing so would require extra cleaning; cleaning which will not be done. My nose and eyes starts to run and I get sick when I enter a house or facility that lets dogs and cats in unless the facility has been cleaned really, really good. I hope pets are NOT allowed in the cabins. The owners can let them stay outside, put them in a kennel next to the cabin, or keep them locked up in their vehicle, i.e., which would require keeping the windows partially open for ventilation. Again, please do NOT allow pets in the cabins.

PS: I own property in West Virginia and live in Columbia, MD so I can get to work in Washington, DC.

John Gard
5045 Rushlight Path
Columbia, MD 21044

John Gard

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Tom Jackson [tjackson02@cebridge.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 7:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

Phyllis and Thomas wish to register our comment: that we think pets (dogs and/or cats) should NOT be permitted in park cabins or lodge rooms. Neither of us are smokers, but both of us would rather stay in a room or cabin where a smoker has resided than to stay where there has been a dog or cat. Both of us love dogs and are around two belonging to our daughter, but we do not have them in the house.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment about the possibility of this change in park rules.

Thomas W. and Phyllis L. Jackson.

Tricia Sizemore

From: rbhiser1@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 5:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: rbhiser1@aol.com
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Being former pet owners we understand the desire of people to have their animal family members with them at all times, however, while this may be fine in your home you do not own the cabin/lodge room you are renting for a short time. Having stayed in motels and lodges around the country that have allowed pets, we have never had the odor, hair, etc., completely eliminated. As we are active members of the VIPP program we have always taken great pleasure in the fresh, clean and bright rooms we have stayed in throughout the State Park system. Please do not change rules to satisfy a few that will degrade the pleasure of the many.
Thank you for the opportunity to comment,
Bob & Gloria Hiser
PO Box 694
Elkview, WV. 25071

Tricia Sizemore

From: Helmick Steve [shelmick@mail.rcvideo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 5:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

Hi. Even though my husband and I are pet owners, we would not like to allow pets in the lodges and cabins of our state parks. Though I'm sure that many owners would be responsible, there would also be the ones who would not clean up waste, obey leash laws or keep their pets quiet during the evening hours. We like the freedom to stroll through the park with our 2-year-old daughter and worry about nothing more than the occasional deer.

We are frequent visitors to our state parks and have no problem boarding our pets for overnight stays.

Thanks for allowing us to comment on this issue.

Steve, Betsy & Lily Helmick

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sam Allison [sallison@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 4:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Hello,
Allowing pets in WVDNR cabins or lodge rooms would be a HUGE mistake. Aside from sanitary concerns, there are a lot of people with allergies, who would no longer be able to stay at these facilities. My family has been frequent state parks/forest guests over the years, and if pets were allowed in the cabins and rooms we may not be able to stay again. We have allergies and asthma in the family, and would definitely have reactions if there were any kind of pet pollution present. I would hate to see this happen, and urge that this idea is not pursued.

Thanks and Regards, Samuel Allison

Tricia Sizemore

From: June Jude [jjude@arh.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 3:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I personally would not want to stay in a cabin or room where there has been a dog or cat. No matter how particular one may be about their pets, accidents can happen. Also you can't completely clean up dog or cat hairs, and many people have allergies to animals.

Thanks
June Jude

June Jude
Business Office Clerk
Williamson Appalachian Regional Healthcare
Phone: 606-237-1700 Ext. 4217
Fax Number: 606-237-1708
E-Mail:jjude@arh.org

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Dr. Michael J.Tupta [mjtdds@wv-cis.net]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 1:48 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do NOT allow pets in the cabins at the state parks. I truly think that would be a huge mistake. We travel to at least 4 or 5 state parks per year and I would not like to stay after someone's dog, cat or ferret had stayed there.
Thank you.
Michael J. Tupta DDS

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mary McMahan [mmcmahan@ohiotitlecorp.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 1:19 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Good Afternoon, Yes I would like to comment on pets staying in park lodges and cabins. For the record I enjoy your area and personally I don't want to stay in a lodge or cabin that allows dogs or cats. Allergies and asthma between myself and my children would turn me away from staying with you or in any room that has been previously used by an animal (cat or dog) Don't get me wrong we are animal lovers but cant seem to be around certain ones because of the above reasons. Also you should consider the outdoors with animals in and out of your establishment with fleas and ticks. Good luck in your decision making I vote absoultely NOT !!! Thanks for asking.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Arnold [lwaynearnold@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 1:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

And maybe you can start coon hunts for the dogs too.
Or why not just start fox hunting. Since it is being outlawing it in Britain, maybe you can attract all those frustrated English horsemen. But you might have to hire translators, since they won't understand what we have done to the language.
Maybe the cats can catch mice, but is it worth all the allergic dander and hair they will leave behind?
If there are pets, some will inevatably have an accident, so ask your service help if they want to clean up poop. The pee will just soak in, so you won't have to worry about that.
Maybe you have guessed that I am opposed to allowing pets.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Mrscm1048@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 1:13 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My husband and I say *NO* to the proposal for allowing dogs/and or cats in state park cabins and lodges. We do not own pets, but have to put up with neighbors cats and dogs where we live, and we do not want to put up with dogs and cats when going camping. We do like animals, but I'm sure that there will be owners that will not clean up after their pets and others who do not have pets will be bothered by the messes in and around the cabins, and in the lodges, there will be a lot of noise in small places. It is only natural that animals bark and meow, but shouldn't be allowed in the lodge rooms. Thank you for considering our comments.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Loretta B. Durrett [lbdurrett@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 11:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

The four of us are against allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms. As frequent guests of the state of West Virginia we feel this is not in the best interest of all guests.We realize many pet owners are very responsible, however many are not. Also how many animals would be allowed per cabin or room, 2-3-4-10? Dander and hair from animals is very difficult to remove. People who have allergies would suffer when this residue is left behind. Please do not change the rules that we have accepted for so many years.

W.T. Durrett
Loretta Durrett
196 Grandview Dr.
St.Albans, WV 25177

Jack Adkins
Patricia Adkins
1062 Green Meadow Rd.
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: CALLADJUSTING1@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 11:12 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I don't think pets should be allowed in the cabins and lodges, or even in the campgrounds of the state parks for that matter. Whenever you put an animal in a strange enviroment they are going to be nervous, and are more likely to bark and disrupt other people who are staying there. Not to mention the fact they can dirty up the room, and the next person who is in that room may possibly have an allergy to pet hair, dander, etc that did not get cleaned out thoroughly because it can't be seen.

As for animals in the campgrounds of state parks, I know they are currently allowed but I think this should be rethought. When camping at Watoga last year we couldn't get any peace and quiet for all the dogs people had in the campground. Granted, they were on leashes (for the most part), but every time someone walked by they barked, and during the night they barked at every strange noise. I don't know about anyone else, but I go camping to get away from everything and enjoy the peace and quiet. If I wanted barking dogs I'd just camp in my own backyard!

Cynthia Thompson
Salt Rock, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Paul Wilbur at verizon [paulwilbur@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 9:37 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I understand that to many, pets are their "children/companions"., nevertheless, I feel that the "biological" needs/problems with pets do not mix well with cabins.

Paul Wilbur

www.paulwilbur.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: RoseRiter@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 8:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

Dear John R. Pope -

As a frequent user of our fantastic State Parks, PLEASE do not allow pets in our cabins. I love my pets with all my heart but I do not want to inflict them on others who may suffer from allergies or simply an aversion to the smell of our beloved pets. Our pets belong at home or in the campgrounds.

I know long letters are usually not read so I'll stop now. If you want more on my opinion, please feel free to contact me.

Rose Marie Riter
1014 3rd St. West
Huntington, WV 25701
phone 522-4459

Tricia Sizemore

From: six blade [sixblade@hotmail.com]
ent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 7:23 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Mr. Pope:

Please do not allow pets in the state cabins and guest rooms.

I realize the rooms would be cleaned but there in no way all of the pet hair and dander could be removed.

I do not wish to be sleeping in a bed that a pet was in.

Thanks for listening to my comment.

Joe

Tricia Sizemore

From: jennifer conaway 304 422 8952 [jconaway2318@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

my preference is not to have pets in the cabins. nobody loves your pet as much as you do. the smell the destruction the allergys. Thanks for asking

Tricia Sizemore

From: Buzz & Phyllis Boykin [buzboykin@rsonline.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 10:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Tricia,

Even though I am a pet owner and animal lover, I do not think it is appropriate for pets to be allowed in cabins. (I prefer that they not even be allowed in campgrounds!)

With the possibility of fleas, scents left after the animal leaves and the PROBABILITY that a later occupant might have allergies, I feel that the pets should be left at home.

I even have a sister who likes to travel with her cat but have been unable to convince her she should not do so. It is much easier to not allow the pets than it is to cope with the aftermath of their occupancy. I was a Realtor for a number of years and we really had some horror stories of homes which had pets in them, both owner and tenant occupied.

Please DO NOT allow them. Even though I am not a WV resident, I am a frequent visitor to your parks. I have not completed all of the visits for the VIPP but am close to doing so.

Phyllis Boykin
PO Box 1417
King George, Va. 22485

Tricia Sizemore

From: MBRBML@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 8:50 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

My husband and I frequently enjoy week long visits to WV state parks (we are scheduled to be there in October this year), and one of the reasons we enjoy it so much is the quiet. I think it would be a BIG negative to have pets allowed in the cabins - and I say this as a pet lover and dog owner. I can only imagine the noise from barking dogs, especially those dogs who are used to "city life" and will bark at every noise from the woods, all night long. As an alternative, if you must change the rule about pets, maybe only make a limited number of cabins "pet friendly" and choose the cabins furthest from other guests. Thank you for allowing comments. Mary Lattig, Lakeland, Florida

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brock W Crabtree [brock.crabtree@juno.com]
nt: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 6:27 PM
o: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: NO, NO, NO

DO NOT Approve pets in state park cabins. The pet damage to hardwood floors, smell and risk to children in the park is way to high for our great state parks. The news is full of pet owners that have attack dogs that injure or kill. The camp areas already have pet owners that DO NOT follow STATE PARK rules for pets (DOGS) on leach. 2 years ago at Tygart Lake State Camp grounds the over 5 dogs were running from site to site with young kids at risk. The park ranger did not respond to requests to remove the pet owners for violation of the rules. The private camp site in the area provides more control of violations and return of service for the price.

AS A VIPP member, military veteran from the state of WV please take my vote and understanding of what is best for all WV state parks.

1. LIMIT risk of damage. NO PETS in cabins.
2. Reduce risk of attack on KIDS. NO PETS in cabins and enforce pet rules. Recommend changing the state park rule to no PETS in state park.

Please keep me informed on all state park legislation and also as a possible board member for oversight of WV State Parks

Tricia Sizemore

From: GSRowan [gsrowan@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 6:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

My wife and I have been part of the VIPP program since it was started several years ago and we enjoy visiting our state parks when we have the opportunity.

Over the years we have had dogs as pets but have never permitted them to stay in our home. We view our State Park cabins and lodges as a home away from home and would not support any move to change the present policy on pets to permit them to stay in those facilities. In fact, when we travel we will not knowingly stay in a pet friendly motel/hotel. Based on our experience with our daughters who both have pets in their homes, it seems to be impossible to remove pet hair from a house where they are permitted to stay.

We believe that it would be bad policy to permit pets in facilities that were constructed for human use. It will certainly discourage us from using them in the future and it will increase the amount of work required to clean those facilities and maintain them to the great standards that they now enjoy. There is also the issue of the many individuals who are allergic to pet dander and hair who would be forced to find other accomodations were this purposal actually put into practice.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this subject.

Glenn S. Rowan
Carolyn Kay Rowan
P. O. Box 353
Milton WV, 25541
(304) 743-3768

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Tricia Sizemore

From: rosebush@myfam.com
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 12:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

Dear Tricia:
I do no wish to be mean, but NO, NO, AND NO to pets in cabins and lodge rooms. I don't want someone elses leftover germs in my room when I am traveling and I most asssuredly do not want someone's pet's germs. Nor do I want some stupid cat or dog noises and odors, which you cannot get rid of, no matter how good the housekeeping, and as we all know, sometimes the cleaners get behind and start to hurrying!!! I am very proud of our State Park system and use them frequently, but, I repeat, DO NOT WANT PETS KEPT IN ANY LODGES OR CABINS. Thanks for listening. Susan and Larry Siers, Rt. 1, Box 10, Elizabeth, WV 26143

Tricia Sizemore

From: Truman Sayre [tsayre@wvbep.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:52 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Sir,
Good morning.

I am against pets in overnight WV Park lodgings.

The pets will damage the rooms. Some guests are allergic to pets. The pets will also cause other collateral damage to other Park facilities, if the pets are then taken to other Park facilities during the guests' stay, or the pets will be left alone in the lodging or rooms without supervision, or left to roam about the Park without supervision, or be left tied to a tree to bark and intimidate other quests.

Also, there will be additional noise, such as barking or whining, as the pets are in a strange place and want to stake their territory or engage in activities with other pets.

Thank you,
TRUMAN SAYRE, JR.
1 A Brawley Road
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: neil knicely [rknicely@ma.rr.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 8:00 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I do NOT believe it is in he best interest of our park service to allow pets(cats and dogs) to be housed in the cabins or lodge rooms. Owners can easily make other arrangements.
Many people are severely allergic to cats and dogs. Their dander stays in the area, long after they are gone. This is in spite of the best routine cleaning up by the maintenance people. We all know they carry fleas around with them, and these will be left in the carpet and other furniture.
Please understand I am not "anti animal"..
If necessary I suppose a compromise could be reached by allowing animals in some rooms/cabins and no animals in others, but I'm sure it would be difficult to maintain proper records.

Rebecca I . Knicely
Route 1, Box 301, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cindy Lawson [revandmrs@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 12:03 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

No, I do not think that pets should be allowed in the cabins at state parks. As someone who has and does stays in our State Parks, I do not wish to sleep in a bed or stay overnight in a room previously occupied by someone's pet. I know that they may love their animals but let them deal with them at home.

Many folks have allergies and the pet hair and odor that is always left behind from pets is not only offensive, it is harmful to those who already suffer from allergies. Pet issues are much like cigarette smoke, if you are not a smoker you can smell the effects and remains of smoke long before and after those who are accustomed to smoking or those who are often in a smoking environment! In addition, pets can be very destructive to the furniture and property. More importantly, is the safety issue of dogs, and who will police whether they are kept on a leash?

If you decide to allow pets, I would hope that you would have only a **select few rooms** that would be offered to those visitors with pets and when those room are reserved, then no other pets would be allowed to stay at the park.

Thank you.
Cindy Lawson

Tricia Sizemore

From: janpridy2@charter.net
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 3:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in cabins or lodges

My vote is NO! For those of us who have children who have allergies, a decision to allow animals would deter our decision to stay in the WV parks cabins and lodges.Thank you for your comment request. Janis Priddy

Tricia Sizemore

From: Matt McDonald [jemamcdonald@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 2:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My family and I have enjoyed our trips to your parks. I would hate to see them go down hill as many places I have seen once they start allowing pets. When planning trips we often look at the pet friendly motels as last resorts to avoid nasty pet smells. Thank you for asking for comments before you make your decision.

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football

Tricia Sizemore

From: Regina Murdock [rmurdock@cellularoneweb.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 1:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I believe it would not be good to allow dogs or cats or really any type of live animal in any of the rooms. With the large amount of people having alergies and the smell/odor of animals can linger after the rooms are cleaned.....

May want to check into having an animal kennel (like a baby sitter)for your guests pets.... to keep at night and during the day when the guests are doing activaties....

When I travel, I make sure I do not get a room that animals was not allowed.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Linda Blake [Linda.Blake@mail.wvu.edu]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 9:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in Parks

Hello,

I am opposed to pets being kept in state park cabins or lodge rooms. A lot of money would have to be spent for clean up which would drive up the cost of rentals.

Linda Blake
Electronic Journals Coordinator/ Science Librarian
West Virginia University Libraries
304.293-4040 ext. 4462
"The library and books are IT for me; all of life is in there."
--Ray Bradbury

Tricia Sizemore

From: Skaff, Ed [Ed.Skaff@cdicorp.com]
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 8:57 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: tpyles@hntb.com
Subject: Public Comments aabout Pets Attn:John R. Pope-Chief WV State Parks

I've been informed that allowing people to keep pets, i.e. dogs and cats, in the cabins at the state parks is under consideration.

Have you ever been in a house where dogs and/or cats reside? One of the reasons it has been desireable to go to the parks and rent a cabin is to stay in cabins that are always neat and clean and to smell the fresh air. Well, all this goes away when you bring in the dogs and cats.

First order of business for most cats in a new environment is to "mark their territory", especially when they see other creatures in the area. The cabin becomes "their territory". Have you ever tried to get rid of the odor of a cat that has "marked it's territory".

I'm sure the whole intent in allowing this is the additional revenue. The extra money generated will quickly be offset by the additional cleanup costs and the revenue lost from people like myself who will no longer rent cabins.

Since letting pets run loose in the parks is not permitted, people will most certainly leave them in the cabins unattended while they go biking, fishing or engage in activities where having the pets along is not convenient.

Hopefully, this will be one of those rare occasions when good sense will prevail in making a government-related decision. Ed Skaff

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Amgkp@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 20, 2005 8:19 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

We are against allowing pets overnight in state park cabins and/or lodge rooms.
Most visitors are there to enjoy the natural surroundings— not deal with other people's pets.
Thanks, Steve and Gloria Poff

Tricia Sizemore

From: JBeane@eqt.com

Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 8:13 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO ALLOW PETS IN THE PARK FACILITIES. THE NOISE WOULD BE BAD ENOUGH, SINCE MOST PEOPLE COME TO RELAX. ANOTHER ITEM WOULD BE THE ODORS, THAT WOULD BE VERY HARD TO CONTROL. NO PETS AND NO SMOKING WOULD SUITE ME FINE. I KNOW I WOULD NOT STAY IN A ROOM THAT HAD PETS IN IT.

JON BEANE
SISSONVILLE WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Buzz & Phyllis Boykin [buzboykin@rsonline.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 7:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I am _dead set against_ pets in Cabins or Lodge rooms. I am not interested in putting up with the smells, noise and general aggravation factor of ill controlled pets. They are bad enough in camp grounds. Please keep them out of Cabins and Lodge rooms.

Sincerly,

Buzz Boykin
PO Box 1417
King George, Va. 22485

buzboykin@rsonline.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marsha Seacrist [mseacrist@earth1.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 7:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I wish to express my vehement opposition to allowing pets in state park cabins and lodges. It should be noted that the trend in the lodging industry is away from this practice, so renewing a practice that was prohibited several years ago seems to be regressive rather than progressive. It should also be pointed out that many users have severe allergies to animals, and some of these are extremely uncomfortable, not to mention potentially life threatening in rare cases. Additionally, animals in a strange environment are often nervous and upset, causing them to bark or worse disturbing other guests. No one wants to be awakened in the middle of the night by another guests' dog. Cabins are bad enough, but loge rooms that are even closer together are worse. In a large lodge maybe the dog can even keep several rooms or multiple floors awake. The person who is proposing this change obviously won't be the one to face the irate guests in the morning. Finally, no matter how well a cabin or lodge room is cleaned, pet dander remains from two to four months, depending on the animal. Inconsiderate guests even put park blankets down for pets, and then put them away unwashed. Maybe the proposer of this change would prefer to sleep under a blanket used by pets, but the majority of us do not. I am certain the change was proposed by a political appointee. It must have been - no full time employee would want a change this poorly thought out. Politicians should leave well enough alone, and let the pros manage the state park system. By and large, they've done pretty well over the years. It's nice to have something in the state that's in the top five nationally, rather than being ranked 48, 49 or 50. The opportunity to comment is appreciated.....Bob Mathis

Tricia Sizemore

From: Val Carnell [valc25248@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 19, 2005 5:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "public comments about pets"

Absolutely no pets allowed! I own pets and they should be left at home, they are not children! And who wants to walk through pet droppings all the time. Also think of the people that have allergies pet dander is the worse. So please do not allow this keep our cabins pet free!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Thank you,
The Carnell's

Yahoo! Mail
Stay connected, organized, and protected. Take the tour

Tricia Sizemore

From: SHERRY DAVISON [SHERRYD419@msn.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 11:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

To whom it may concern,

I recently received a postcard in the mail notifying me of possible legislation that would permit pets in state park cabins and/or lodge rooms and I wanted to share my thoughts on the subject. Although I am an avid animal lover and pet owner myself (I have 3 cats), I do not support the passing of such legislation. I know first hand how time consuming and difficult caring for and cleaning up after animals can be. Allergies to cats and dogs are a serious problem for some people and may pose problems for them to stay in lodging previously inhabited by an animal. As an alternative, I would suggest maybe looking into the possibility of providing pet kennels in some of the state parks. Many places (ie amusement parks) have invested in these kennels, and I think they are a safe and welcome alternative to leaving your pet behind or in a car. Thank you for allowing me to express my opinion.

Sincerely,

Sherry Davison
French Creek, WV
e-mail: SherryD419@msn.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tricia Baldwin [triciab@email.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 11:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment Re: Pets in State Park Cabins-NO!

Let us take this opportunity to express our thoughts on pets in state park cabins. WE ARE OPPOSED!

We like animals. We have pets. However, we are continually concerned about the lack of resposibility pet owners seem to take regarding their animals.We are concerned that flees and damaged property would be the common experience for park visitors. We are concerned that housekeeping staff will have additional work because of pets. Will they receive additional pay?

We recognize that people love their pets but others should not be required to deal with floxum from the pets of others pets. If people can't stand a week away from their household pets...stay home! Afterall, pets are animals...and there is plenty of wildlife to enjoy in WV state parks if we keep them wild.

These are just our thoughts it is likely we are in the minority. Thanks for the opportunity to express our opinions.

Tricia and Austin Baldwin

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Irene & Blaine Shriver [ob.shriver@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 10:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in State Parks

Mr. John R. Pope, Chief
Sir
I feel that permitting pet in our cabins and lodge rooms is the same as smoking facilities. There are folks that are allergic to cats and dogs. Therefore I would recommend not allowing Pets in our State Park Cabins and Lodge rooms. If you must, then only specified rooms and cabins be used for families and their pets.
Also I am sure permitting the pets in our State Park facilities would cause additional cleaning responsibilities as well as additional cleaning supplies. This would cause an added expense for our State Parks which we don't need.
Blaine & Irene Shriver

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lilac2800@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 7:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To whom it may concern,

Please do not allow cats or dogs to stay in your cabins. Nothing is worse than walking into a room that smells like dog. If a cat had an accident, the urine smell would always linger. Also, the allergy dandruff from a cat or dog will be always in the cabin. You would also run the problem of fleas and ticks in the cabin. If this is allowed, we would probably never return to a WV park again.

Thanks,
Gary Ream
Justin Ream
Phyllis Ream
Brittany Ream

Tricia Sizemore

From: Laura O'Dell [odell@kvinet.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 3:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

Even though I understand that some people's pets are like a family member, I am **opposed** to letting overnight park guests keep pets in state park cabins. My husband and I always enjoy staying in the park cabins. It is such a relaxing vacation. I feel the pets, especially the dogs, would scare the wild animals, such as the deer, racoons, etc. and may people enjoy watching these wild animals when they come to a state park. Also, I can just imagine the dogs barking constantly because the wild animals are there!

If there is legislation passed allowing this, I feel there should just be certain cabins where pets are allowed. I really don't want to stay in a cabin where the previous occupants have included pets.

Thanks for allowing me to have input in this situation.

Tricia Sizemore

From: BiJ485@aol.com

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 10:23 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

pets are nice i have two dogs of my own but its nice to get away from ordinary. i think that pets in cabins would take away from the natural wildlife beauty that has been presurved so well in our state parks. i oppose pets in cabins

Tricia Sizemore

From: Colleen Davidson [cdavidso@citynet.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:50 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Please!!!! NO PETS!! They are nasty!

Colleen Davidson
RR2, Box 452A
Salt Rock, WV 25559

Tricia Sizemore

From: JHCORY1@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment About Pets"

We feel that cats and dogs should not be allowed in state park cabin and lodge rooms because of allergies caused by pet dander. There is also the possibility of destruction of furniture as well as unpleasant odors that could left in carpets, etc. Please consider these drawbacks carefully.

Jim and Coraletta Houck
Parkersburg, West Virginia

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mark & Becky Moyer [MBMoyer@hky.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 8:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I urge you to rule against a change that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets in state park cabins and/or lodge rooms.

1. They are a mess to clean up after and this shouldn't have to be one of the jobs of the park employees.
2. Dogs get very angry when left in a strange place by themselves and feel that they have been abandoned.
3. They can be destructive to the property, and this in turn costs the tax payers and park guests money.
4. Many people are allergic to dog and cat dander which is nearly impossible to completely clean up.

Thanks for your consideration.

Becky Moyer

Tricia Sizemore

From: MaHarm3@aol.com
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 1:13 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

No pets please. Some people have problems staying after pets have been in room and when camping like where there is no dog mess or barking.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marge Bragg [ijram98@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 10:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

please do not allow pets in the cabins and lodges. I am a pet owner and lover, but too often people who have pets are so taken by their pets that they forget that all others are not pet lovers and take them places that they interferer with the quiet and enjoyment of others. Additionally, even the most well trained pets can be noisy and misbehave in new and overstimulating situations.
NO!
Marge Bragg

Tricia Sizemore

From: Pauline806@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 10:37 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would not knowingly stay in a cabin where animals are allowed.

Pauline P. Stanhagen
Owner: Hilltop House Hotel, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

Tricia Sizemore

From: maureen donato [mdonato98@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 7:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

To Whom it May Concern:

My family and I often go to the state parks. We love the park system in this state. We are VIPP members.

Please do **NOT** allow pets in lodge rooms or cabins.

If it must happen, please allow only designated rooms as pet rooms.

I would dread the thought of fleas, smells, allergens from pet dander, and God only know what else.

I am a pet owner. I love animals. I believe the pets should not be treated like humans. They are not humans.

Some pet owners are not as clean as others or as responsible. I would hate to pay the price for their irresponsibility.

Maureen Donato
Rt 2 Box 207
Arnoldsburg, WV 25234

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna Perkins [janddperkins@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 7:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

My husband and I wish to express our opinion regarding allowing pets in state park cabins and/or lodge rooms. Although we are both animal lovers, we are **adamantly against** this legislation. Our wonderful lab, Chloe, stays outside where animals belong. My husband and I both suffer from allergies, and the thought of spending a night in a cabin or lodge room where someone has allowed their pet free reign, including probably sleeping in the bed with them, is horrifying! Please DO NOT allow this legislation. If this becomes a reality, you can be sure that these two allergy sufferers will be spending their nights in a nearby hotel/motel room which is pet free AND smoke-free! Thank you.

John and Donna Perkins

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football

Tricia Sizemore

From: WVBSmith@wmconnect.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 7:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I received your card about legislation to allow pets in state park cabins and lodge rooms. I strongly disapprove of this legislation. I have allergies and this type of action would definitely stop me from staying in a state park cabin or lodge room.
I have many family members who have allergies as well. I feel people can put their pets in a kennel at least while on vacation instead of ruining it for everyone else. Not everyone can tolerate pet odors or pet dander. Please stop any legislation that would allow pets (cats or dogs or any other animal) to stay in state park cabins and lodge r ooms. Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charlotte Warren [ckwarren@citynet.net]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 5:28 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

About the possible rule change on pets in the cabins or lodge rooms in state parks. I enjoy staying in both the lodge rooms and cabins. I would not object to pets being allowed in the cabins, providing that only one or two cabins are set aside for "pets allowed" only, but I personally would not stay in a cabin where the pets had been staying. Setting cabins aside for that use only would give people a choice - just as in hotels and restaurants having no smoking rooms and sections. The owners would have to keep the animals quiet (which could prove to be impossible), and also have to follow rules established to CLEAN UP AFTER them. Also, I think each cabin should be allowed only one pet at a time. I do not, however, think pets should be allowed in any of the lodge rooms under any circumstances. This goes for both dogs and cats - the smells, the barking, having them in the hallways - would just be too much.

Tricia Sizemore

From: DONSUESARAH@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 5:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Mr. Pope,

Please, please NO !!!! As a sufferer from pet allergies, not to mention the smell of animal urine that is IMPOSSIBLE to remove from carpets, floors and furniture...I think this would be a HUGE mistake. We stay every year in your beautiful parks, and this would certainly make us think twice about coming again. I can't believe this is even on your table for discussion. Sorry. I am a pet lover and owner myself. But I vote a big NO on this one.

Keep up the good work - your parks are a real joy to visit and a tremendous treasure that we out of staters (with West Virginia roots) hope to continue to enjoy.

Take care and leave the light on for us, (but not for our pets)
Suzanne and Don Ney
Mount Vernon, Washington

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara W. Harvey [wolfe2@citynet.net]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 5:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Barb Wolfe Harvey
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I do not think pets should be allowed in cabins or lodges for several reasons.

#1 Many people are allergic to pet dander. This is left even when the pet is not present.

#2 Some people are afraid of dogs and cats - particularly small children.

#3 Some animals do their business on the furniture and carpet - causes damage and odor to the facilities which will cost all park users additional funds and discomfort.

#4 Some dogs bark a lot and would/could keep other users from sleeping or enjoying themselves in the park.

Barbara Wolfe Harvey

Tricia Sizemore

From: Don W. Beyer [dbeyer@wsgarch.com]

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 4:46 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am against allowing pets in cabins or lodge rooms. I have been visiting state parks as well as all other types of parks for over 40 years. It would be safe to assume that the most likely pets to visit the state parks would be dogs. The additional enforcement resources required to effectively take care of barking and defecation complaints would definitely make the proposal cost-prohibitive. I have enough barking dogs in my own neighborhood. I would hate to think I would have to deal with more of it in the state parks. Additionally, there would be increased cleaning required in these cabins or rooms. However, a case might be made for having rooms designated for pets AND smoking but not one or the other. Again, I am against allowing more pets in the parks.
Thank you.

Donald W. Beyer, P.E.
Williamson Shriver Architects
717 Bigley Avenue
Charleston, WV 25302
Phone 304-345-1060
Fax 304-345-3693

Tricia Sizemore

From: Alan Holiday II [aholiday@cellularoneweb.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 4:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: i have a comment on pets in state parks

Tricia,

Personally I do not feel that it would be recommended to allow pets whether cats, dogs, or pot bellied pigs. Whatever, the pet may be not all pet owners are very good cleaner uppers as far as their pets go. I take very good care of my animals and always clean up behind them but not all pet owners follow this routine.

An additional concern would be allergies. My wife of 6 months is allergic to cats and my mother is allergic to both dog dander and cats. The last thing the state parks need is a lawsuit from a customer that stayed in a cabin after a cat or dog owner and has a severe allergic reaction or asthma attack.

Truthfully this new addition could bring in more people to the cabins that are not currently staying with your organizations. However, at what expense. If you lose your current customers that you know are coming faithfully just to gain new business that may or may not be loyal visitors.

I am only 23 and certainly dont claim to be a genius by any stretch of the imagination, but, I do have my bachelor's of science degree in business. During my schooling I learned that it is 5 times more expensive to make a new customer than it is to keep a current customer happy. Maybe your approach to increasing business should be upgrading rooms / beds/ including more hot tubs and spas/ Give family discounts to children under a certain age, install pools, better camping facilities / fishing facilities. Something that will attract new customers as well as keeping your current customers interested and excited.
CERTAINLY NOT FACTUAL INFO IT'S
JUST A THOUGHT

Sincerely,
Alan Jay Holliday II
(304) 890-2912

Tricia Sizemore

From: Teresa Massie [Teresa@cellularoneweb.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I do NOT think that animals should be allowed to stay. I think they are dirty and I don't want to stay and sleep in the same place they have stayed.

Thank you ,

Teresa Massie

Tricia Sizemore

From: JAvonlady1@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pubic comments about Pets

No pets in cabins. Maybe in lodge rooms that are set aside just for pets and an extra charge per night per pet perhaps $10.00. Too much mess at cabin grounds and for next reservationist who may be allergic to cat or dog fur or dander and have an allergic reaction. There is no way a maid should have to do a special cleaning of all blankets and bedding and still not get out all the fur from the cabin. Barking noise from the lodge rooms may also be a problem as guests do leave the pets and go out for dinner and activities. Jeannine and John Meszaros

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan Schneeberger [susanschneeberger@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Why would you even consider letting pets in the cabins/lodge rooms!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I love animals and own a few myself (yes they are kept outside), but our beautiful state parks are full of vandalism from irresponible guests now. Why would you want to add irrepsonsible pets and pet owners to the list?????? I have no desire to stay in a cabin the has housed pets. The up keep on the cabins will be more, therefore there goes more tax payers money trying to maintain the cabins. I realize humans are dirty also, but I don't scratch the cabins to peices and leave behind fleas. There is also the chance that these pets will chase the wildlife not only deer, but raccoons that carry rabies and canine distemper (are the pets shots up to date). Then there is the issue of pet waste. Will the owners really do pooper scooper duty or leave it in and around cabin. Not only smelly, but I don't want to walk in it. Also the visitors in the next cabin might not like animals or the animals might bark all night long. I recently came back from vacation at Babcock S.P. where I stayed in a cabin by the creek built by the CCC. I can't even imagine the damage that pets could do to such nicely constructed cabins built by people who worked hard and knew their jobs. Thank you for reading my opinion. Susan Schneeberger

Susan Schneeberger, OAII
Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept.
211 6th Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101
(304) 485-1416

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Jim Wells [jwells@wvadmin.gov]

Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 3:13 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

As a VIPs we are opposed to allowing pets in cabins or lodge rooms. As an alternative, I would strongly encourage the park administrators to have both "smoke free" and "pet free" rooms available. As with any noise complaint, I would expect two warnings and the pet is required to be placed away from the cabins or lodge (park may need kennel area). Thanks for the chance to offer some thoughts. James D. Wells & Jill A. Wells

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sabol, Graham (GW) [sabolgw2@dow.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 2:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets in State Park Cabins

Expires: Saturday, June 17, 2006 12:00 AM

Dear Mr. Pope:

While I am a pet owner, I have very strong personals view of your suggestion for changing current State Park cabin policy.

There is nothing to be gained in allowing pets in State Park cabins.

No increase in revenues could be realized by the State Park due to such a change. Deterioration of the minimum adequately maintained cabins will undoubtedly accelerate due to pet damage and soiling. Maintenance and cleaning of the cabins will be harder and more difficult on the Park staff. More than likely, Parks will loose revenue as more and more cabin guests refuse to stay in cabins soiled with pet urine. As the deterioration of the States Cabins due to pet damage accelerates, word of the poor and deteriorating condition of the cabins will spread, especially among the young professionals. It is these people, the young professionals, which are to become the future regulars of the Parks. It makes no sense to jeopardize a good relationship with future tenants of the cabins with a careless and irresponsible change in policy.

Changing the current policy to allow pets in cabins could benefit only a few closed minded pet owners. The reality these few pet owners have not yet grasped is that it is unlikely their pet could distinguish the difference from spending a night in the car or a cabin. They should also realize that there are plenty of good kennels in West Virginia that will keep the pets when they are on vacation. State Park cabins are not the least expensive place to stay. If you can afford to stay in a cabin, you can also afford a kennel for a pet. I think the State Parks have to ask themselves, are they in the kennel business or the outdoor recreation business?

There is nothing here that warrants a change to allow pets in Park cabins. There is no economic case for the change of current policy.

There are reasons why people like me choose to stay in the State Park cabins and I will tell you that it is not because I could bring my cat to stay with me.

Respectfully submitted,
Graham Sabol, P.E.

Tricia Sizemore

From: pbriggs [pbriggs@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 9:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

The way the rules are now are just fine. I am against changing the rules to let pets in state park cabins and lodge rooms.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary Fain [gfain9@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 7:40 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Good Morning,
Just received the postcard concerning legislation to allow pets in state park lodging. I am **against** this change. My children and myself have severe allergies to pet dander. We could no longer stay overnight at a state park.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Teresa Pyles [TPyles@HNTB.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 7:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Dear Mr. Pope,

I am adamantly against allowing pets in the cabins and lodge rooms of our state parks. I have pets myself but I allow them only in certain parts of my house because of the hair. I really don't want to sit on a sofa or eat at a table where a dog or cat has been lying. If the cabins are actually cleaned to the point that the next occupant doesn't see signs of animals, it will be a tremendous addition to the already overworked and underpaid cleaning staff who work at our state parks. An animal can also do damage in the form of chewing and scratching on doors, windows, etc. We need to preserve our state park cabins as they are and let the pet owners either board their pets or stay at a privately owned place that allows pets. If you must allow pets maybe you should charge the owners an extra fee for the clean-up and restrict the reservations to certain "pets allowed" cabins or rooms.

Thank you for your consideration,

Teresa Pyles
5130 Brookside Dr.
Cross Lanes, WV. 25313

P.S. Thank you for a job well done in our parks.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: John Siewny [jsiewny@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:54 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

To whom it may concern, I have bean a pet owner for all may life. But I do not think that the state should allow pets in the cabins and lodge rooms. There is no excuse for not boarding your pet before you vacation. That is what we always have done and will continue to.
We must respect the other quest comforts. There may be a problem with the next quest as to allergy to pets. Are all pet owners responsible as to there pets waist?
Leave well enough alone. And maybe supply owners of pets with address and numbers of boarding kennels. If they must travel with there pets.
Thanks for the chance to state my comments.

John & Patricia Siewny

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marshjanelew@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am against allowing pets in cabin/lodge rooms as many individuals have severe allergies to pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Denise Cox [wvdeedee@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I would like to comment on the proposal to allow pets in cabins and lodges. My family and I have been renting cabins at state parks since 1990 and Blackwater since 1993. I am an animal lover and have a dog of my own. However, I do not feel that it would be appropriate to allow them in the cabins or lodges of the parks. I feel it would greatly disturb the wildlife in the cabin area, not to mention the possibilty of disturbing other vacationers. I come to the park to enjoy the quiet of the surrounding woods and nature, not to listen to barking dogs. It could also create a mess in the cabin/lodge area as the dogs have to relieve themselves somewhere. I also feel that with so many people having allergies to animal dander, it could put some people at risk if they were to rent a cabin or room previously occupied by someone with a pet.

T!

Denise Cox

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Tricia Sizemore

From: GY2137@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I disapprove of dogs being allowed to stay inside cabins at the Parks. The next person could be very allergic to animals and have a real bad experience.

Maybe some kind of kennel should be set up for visitors with dogs and they could walk them and spend time with them but not in the cabins.

Gail

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ken nd Kay [mollyo@core.com]
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 12:19 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

John R. Pope, Chief
West Virginia State Park

Attn. Public Comment RE: Pets

Dear Mr. Pope:

My husband and I grew up in the Charleston area, and we continue to think of West Virginia as "home." We have always loved visiting the WV State Parks, and we recently completed our first VIPP card and proudly wear our jackets. We also participate in the Hike WV program. As we visit the parks, we are thrilled to discover "wild and wonderful" scenery that we have never seen before. In fact, many of our Ohio friends say we are Ambassadors for WV because, as we discover new places, we make a second trip with friends to share the beauty we have experienced on our own. Since retirement, we travel throughout the United States, yet we continue to think of West Virginia's state parks as the most beautiful.

I have mixed feelings concerning pets in the park lodges and cabins. Personally, I would love to take my little dog, especially to the cabins. Since we cannot take her at the present time, we are limited to day trips or camping. If we were able to take her to the cabins, we would come more often; but I can see that there would be more expense involved in cleaning and other problems if pets were allowed in the cabins. Cats could be helpful in controlling the mice that seem to be in many of the cabins, but cats have a tendency to "get away." I have seen what feral cats have done to the native bird population on the North Carolina Outer Banks, and I would hate to see that happen to the wild birds and other small wildlife in the WV state parks.

As far as the possibility of pets being allowed in the lodge rooms, I feel that would hurt business - even if they were limited to specific rooms. I have stayed in motel rooms that allowed pets, and they were always smelly and seemed unclean.

As a pet owner and dog lover, I would certainly enjoy bringing my own dog, but I probably would not like to stay in lodge rooms or cabins where other people have had their pets.

I hope my comments are of some use to you in your considerations concerning pets in the park lodges and cabins.

Sincerely,
Kay M. Adkins
1092 Klicher Road
Gallipolis, OH 45631

6/17/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: john Koller [firstsgt876@libcom.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 8:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about PetsQ

16 JUN 05

Dear Ms. Sizemore,

We received your postcard asking for comments about the "no Pets" rule at West Virginia State Parks. Rose Marie and I agree: DO NOT CHANGE THE RULE. We have several family pets and keep them clean and healthy. Although it may be convenient to take pets along for an extended stay at a West Virginia State Park, we want things to remain as they are now. Allowing pets would mean ALL pets. Some large breed dogs (Rotweilers for example) can be hard to handle, even hazardous to other Park Guests. If you allow pets to stay at cabins and facilities you risk possible liability problems. At the very least you will need to set and *enforce* rules concerning cleaning up after pets; leash rules; looking for lost pets. You risk damage to park facilities, furniture, outdoor areas, plants, etc.

Rose Marie and I used to travel to Virginia several times a year to stay at Skyline Drive. However, when we visited the great State Parks in West Virginia, we found them friendlier, less crowded, less stressful, more peaceful. When we plan an extended visit to enjoy nature, we now plan only for West Virginia! You have the right formula for beautiful, restful environments at all your State Parks. Cooper's Rock, Babcock State Park, and of course Black Water Falls are among our favorite places on earth! Please do NOT change the no-pets policy at Park facilities. It would detract from the restful, quiet environment we and many of our friends enjoy in West Virginia State Parks.

Sincerely,
John A. and Rose Marie Koller
2149 George Street, North Huntingdon, Pa. 15642

Tricia Sizemore

From: lmjstmyself@wmconnect.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I love my pets but I don't think they should be allowed in cabins or lodge rooms, especially not lodge rooms. In lodges pets, especially dogs, would more than like bark and disturb other guests. Also, pet stains are very hard to remove. The next guest may have allergies and if all the pet dander is not remove it may cause a problem.

Maybe a boarding room for pets would be more appropriate. A room on site where the pets could be kept during the times the guest is inside the lodge or cabin rooms. That way the owner could still visit and take out side for outings but wouldn't disturb other guests or leave behind a mess in the cabins for the cleaning crew.

Tricia Sizemore

From: WaltCourt@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:41 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about Pets

We are opposed to permitting overnight park guests to keep pets in State Parks cabins and lodges.

It has been our experience that when staying in cabins where this is allowed, it is virtually impossible to get through a night without being awakened by one or more dogs barking. Another concern is the impossibility of completely getting rid of pet odors and hair in these situations.

We have stayed at many of WV parks at both cabins and lodges and feel if WV allows pets overnight we will have to make other plans.

Thank you
Walt Courtney

Tricia Sizemore

From: John and Susan [johnandsusan19508@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

First of all thanks for the opportunity to comment. As an out-of-state resident, we have enjoyed your various State Parks for the best part of 30 years. Each is unique and a pleasant retreat. We are proud to speak very favorably about your Park System. As a pet owner, it is somewhat inconvenient and a little more costly to board our pet during a trip to one of your parks; however, we do not support allowing pets in the cabins or lodge rooms. The added maintenance and cleaning will only serve to increase costs and/or result in a cabin/lodge room rental that is less than appealing. Pets in strange places often act differently and the damage could be costly and time consuming to remedy. In addition, there are some people that would not give the same attention to their pets on someone else's property. Don't ruin a good thing!

Sincerely,

John B. Shaffer
7 Christy Court
Birdsboro, PA 19508

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http://www.peoplepc.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debra Napoli [debranjerry@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 6:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Please Please, do **NOT** allow pets in park cabins or lodge rooms. This is one of the reasons we come to West Virgina. People love their pets and allow them to lay on the beds and furniture. It is impossible to keep rooms pet dander free. We have stayed places that say they wash the bedspreads but how to do wash a couch? We have driven many hours to get to our vacation heaven, onIy to be dissapointed in a pet smelly hairy room. When you don't have pets in your house you are aware of many smells and pet hair on furniture and carpets. I know pets are important to their owners, but they do not belong in places rented to the public.

Sincerely, Debra and Jerry Napoli

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football

Tricia Sizemore

From: Oscar Mills [campmccoy@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 6:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

I have stayed in cabins in various state parks for many years. My favorites include Holly River and Watoga. Although they are not luxury cabins I would hate to see them invaded by pets. I think pets should be allowed to be kept outside but not inside the facilities. I have one child that is very allergic to cat and dog hair and would not be able to sleep in a cabin that was not thouroughly cleaned. I just don't think this is the place for them.

I think West Virginia has one of the best State Park systems in our nation. I am extremely proud of our facilities our services.

Dinah Mills
P.O. Box 5
Jane Lew, WV 26378

Tricia Sizemore

From: chedrick1@verizon.net
ent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 4:57 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comments About Pets"

I would like to discourage the legislation about allowing pets in state park cabins. I worked in the state park system for over ten years and continue to visit them multiple times a year.

Here are my reasons:

1. A deposit to have a pet in a cabin would be a bookkeeping nightmare (as practiced by many areas).> 2. Potential damage by the pet (with or without owners present). 3. Potential flea infestation is a real possibility. 4. Many pet owners would not "pooper scoop" and would ruin the pleasure of children and adults to play/ walk in many areas around the cabin. 5. Unattended pets may create a "noise" problem.

I am a pet owner and love my pets, but I do not think they should be allowed in cabins.

Thank you,

Cynthia L. Hedrick

Tricia Sizemore

From: Retiredgrandmaw@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 4:08 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I do not think it is a good idea to allow pets in the state park cabins or in lodge rooms. The problem as I see it, would be that the next person to use that room or cabin may very well be allergic to animal dander. My husband and I can no longer use the state park lodging because mu husband smokes.
I think to allow animals to be accommodated is a slap in the face to smokers. If I am an unwelcome guest, then I really don't appreciate that an animal will be welcome.
Marcy and Jerry Wisman
134-A Frame Road
Elkview, WV 25071
304 965 6729
Retiredgrandmaw@aol.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Warren Perrine [perrinew@charter.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 3:30 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hello:

My opinion is that I would NOT like to see a change in the present policy. Several of my friends have pets and travel with them, but they also make them behave. It would not take but just one occurrence of a disorderly (barking/growling) dog to create a problem, and I believe you will find that there are more people traveling WITHOUT pets, than the small number that travel with them, which you are trying to accommodate. If they really want to visit our parks and facilities, they can make other arrangements for there pets rather than bringing them along.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Warren Perrine, Parkersburg, W. Va.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debbie Tincher [dtincher@wvwcc.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I am a pet owner of both a dog and a cat and while I love my animals, I would never stay in a facility that allowed pets. I have camped or stayed at almost every state park within WV and have always found them clean and well kept. I would be afraid that by allowing pets to stay in the park facilities, these standards would be jeopardized.

Thank you,
Debbie Tincher

Tricia Sizemore

From: Erin Mauritz [eakers@hotmail.com]
ent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Please protect our wildlife and beautiful environment. We do not want people's pets destroying our State Park facilities. People should not be scared to stay at our state parks because of dogs staying in cabins near them. What happens when a child is bitten or is a victim of an awful dog attack. Let's keep our State Park Cabins clean and a safe place to relax and have a great vacation. That is what kennels are for....to baby sit animals, is that what you want our facilities to become a Kennel???? I vote NOOOOOOOOO!!!

Thanks

Erin Akers

Tricia Sizemore

From: Appalachian Heating (Erin Mauritz) [appheaterin@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I do not want pets to be able to stay over night in State Park cabins. I am highly allerigic to animals especially cats. The animals will mess in the cabins and in the grass and river banks, what is the difference in people littering. We don't want our parks filled with trash or animal mess. Please think hard before Legislation passes this law. State Parks are important to a lot of people, they are a place to get away and relax, not be miserable because of pets barking all night long at the wildlife. Wildlife:It should be safe in its parks,their home,their comfort zone; not threatend by peoples pets.

Please protect our State Parks and Cabins.

Erin Mauritz
Appalachian Heating
304-877-5566
304-877-5576

Tricia Sizemore

From: appheatdave@citynet.net
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I do not think people should be able to keep their pets overnight at State Park Cabins. This is like people smoking in restaurants, to me. I don't want to stay in a cabin that an animal has been in, due to allergies, allerigic reactions, etc. Not to mention the mess that the animals leave in the grass, river banks, and inside the cabin. I do not feel the Legislation should Allow Pets in State Park Cabins. Keep WV CLEAN!!!!!!

Thanks

Dave Akers

Tricia Sizemore

From: Curfman, Roger A KRT-KRT [roger.curfman@kraton.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

Dear Sir,

Please **do not** allow pets in the state parks.

Thanks,
Roger Curfman

Tricia Sizemore

From: Stanton D. Burdette [cityclerk@ptpleasantwv.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 3:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Leave the pets at home.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Michael Mcclure [mmcclure@earthlink.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:57 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

My husband and I are strongly AGAINST allowing pets in cabins and lodge rooms at state parks. Many people are extremely sensitive to pet dander and suffer extreme respiratory distress, sometimes even months later, when given lodging where a pet has been kept. We once stayed in a cabin which was infested with fleas. We received bites and never again visited this facility. If people are SO attached to their pets, they should stay at home with them, or stay in a camper or tent. I like pets...my own, and do not inflict them on others, especially in public places.
Another incident involved a young woman who had her large dog with her on a hiking trail in Kanawha State Forest, where my husband and I have hiked many times. The dog was NOT on a leash, although the young lady had one. The dog did not attack us, but we were intimidated by its size and the fact that it was not leashed and could very well have injured ourselves trying to get away from it. Many adults and children are afraid of animals, sometimes for good reason. These people have rights also, including the right not to be exposed to strange animals in public places. Many animals, also, are not comfortable around strangers and have been known to behave irratically, often viciously, around them. It appears to me this would present a large liability issue for our state parks, and ultimately the taxpayers who support them.
C. McClure

Michael Mcclure
mmcclure@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Glen Rearick [zipper302@1st.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:44 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment'about pets

We do not approve of allowing guests to have pets in state parks cabins or lodge rooms.Should this program pass no pets should be in the lodge and a seperate cabin area should be assigned for pets.Strict rules should be enforced on cleaning up after the pets.We are not pet haters,we have had dogs and cats for years.

Glen and Sarah Rearick

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robert Miller [RMiller@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 1:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I am opposed to people having pets in state park lodges and cabins.

Tricia Sizemore

From: SHayes3793@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:59 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I don't think you should be allowed dogs and cats in lodge rooms or cabins, because then that presents dog hair and fleas there.

Tricia Sizemore

From: I. Lilly [ililly@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Opinion Survey

I have severe cat and dog dander allergies. Animal dander clings to walls, bedspreads, carpets, drapes, actually all surfaces; many of these surfaces are not cleaned on a daily basis. I sincerely hope you do not allow pets in any of your rooms or cabins.

Iris A. Lilly
PO Box 1017
Coal City, WV 25823-1017
304-683-3488

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Richard Fincham [richard.fincham@ansys.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:56 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I'm ***against*** allowing animals. I love animals as much as the next person, but I don't want to risk having to listen to a barking dog all night in the next cabin or lodge room.

Tricia Sizemore

From: RLee9473@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:32 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

NO TO PETS IN LODGE,CABIN'S OR THE CAMP GROUNDS.
THEY MAKE NOISE AND MAKE A MESS THAT IS NOT UP.PLUS THE SMELL THAT IS LEFT IN THE ROOMS . A BIG NO FROM ME !!!!!!!!

THANKS
BOB BANES
MOORESTOWN,NJ

Tricia Sizemore

From: dollie1945@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:18 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am an animal lover, but I believe people should leave there animals at home while traveling.
If they must have animals in cabins then there should be some especially for this purpose. Some people are allergic to cats and dogs and this could be a health problem. This is as bad for them as smelling smoke. Also maybe some people don't take there animals to vets they could have a disease or worms and then a small child would be at risk for this. Some people have big vicious dogs. Last week while at Camp Horeshoe a Rotwiler growled at my husband who was just sitting in his chair. There was a lot of barking also. When are people going to realize that animals are pets not children. Well you have my opinion. The handicaped with dogs is another story.
Judy and Dick Douglas
Last week we camped at Trout Pond in Hardy Co. we heard a whippoorwill. It was so nice we hadn't heard one in years.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Celia [yummin@neo.rr.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:16 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I grew up in WV and our family "vacation" was always spent at one of the state park cabins. Now, with a family of my own, every year in October we spend a long weekend at Twin Falls, renting at least 2 cabins so that all the cousins can get together with the grandparents. I have a Pembroke Welsh Corgi that I dearly love, and is no trouble to travel with, but I always make arrangements to board her for these trips. To allow pets in the cabins and lodge rooms would very much change the quality of the stay for EVERYONE - those who bring pets and those who don't. From the bed linens, the furniture, the cabin floors and the cabin surroundings - EVERYTHING would be affected. Please don't change something that is working beautifully.
Celia Ann Williams

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patricia Ramsey [pbramsey!@citynet.net]
ent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hello,

I AM AGAINST PETS STAYING IN CABINS AT OUR STATE PARKS.

i AM ALLERGIC TO PET DANDER, AS IS MY GRANDCHILDREN.THERE IS NO WAY THAT THE DANDER CAN BE COMPLETELY REMOVED FROM CARPETS, CURTAINS ETC.

I KNOW THAT I AM NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH THIS CONDITION.

THANK YOU

PATRICIA BOLDMAN

Tricia Sizemore

From: D Adema [dattbay@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

No pets ... PLEASE...!!!! Thanks for offering the opportunity for response. d.adema

PS: you want 'reasons'?! Just ask your cleaning staff, and the next guest/occupant after an irresponsible pet owner has been in a unit.

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Natural Lifeways [info@sustainablewv.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

John R. Pope, Chief
WV State Parks
Attn: Public Comment RE: Pets
State Capitol Complex
Bldg 3, Room 713
Charleston WV 25305

Mr. Pope:

Please consider abandoning any legislation that would permit pets in state parks. The keeping of pets is a social behavior of people for their own benefit and do not help conserve resources in any way, shape or form.

The Humane Societies and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals have repeatedly shown the negative consequences of keeping pets to the pets themselves, to the public, to communities and to the environment.

Beyond the anti-social and anti-environmental consequences of keeping pets, we should also remember that most "pets" are either canids (dogs) or felids (cats) and thus they will directly compete with native canids (coyotes and wolves) and felids (bobcats) in the parks. In addition to the occasional drunken brawls among the hominids that we see in park areas now, there could be added an unending bout of dog fights and cat fights as well, if hominids were allowed to bring their pets.

It thus seems reasonable to begin drawing hard lines around this behavior. One such line should be drawn at the boundaries of public parks. We already regulate the behaviors of people using park lands to protect the resources there from our abuses. Now, why would anyone contemplate allowing the abusive behavior of pet-keeping to enter these areas?

Thank- you for soliciting comment from the public. I hope that I have not been too directive in my recommendation.

Dr. John Williams
CEO
Natural Lifeways Inc.
17 Center Ave.
Weston WV 26452
304-269-7902

Tricia Sizemore

From: mike&carol [mikecarol@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 10:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

Having pets in the cabins and lodge rooms is about the most asinine suggestion to come out of Charleston in quite some time!

Houses where pets reside always have a peculiar and unpleasant odor...and usually stains. People are not inclined to take care of their pets as they should and as a result their homes stink. I don't think the travelling public should have to put up with pet odors and stains in state operated facilities. WHY NOT HAVE A BUILDING FOR BOARDNIG THE ANIMALS AT THE PARKS AND LET THE PET OWNERS BEAR THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL COST OF OPERATIONS.

If this policy is implemented we will not be staying at the parks. On the other hand, perhaps I will buy an anaconda and bring it to the parks. Others might not understand my deep affection for this critter, but shouldn't animals be accorded the same rights and priviledges as humans.....NO!!!

We like dogs and cats, but we don't inflict their lack of self-control on others.

Mike Naylor
935 Cedar Grove Road
Parkersburg, WV 26101-7164

Tricia Sizemore

From: Stevens, Shirley [StevensS@parkerhunter.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:42 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: RE: Public Comments about Pets

My friend and I are frequent visitors to the state parks. He is a member of the VIPP club. I am opposed to animals in the lodge and cabins. Many people are allergic to animals and once the dander is in the carpet or upholstery there is not way to get it out. Animal are also messy and leave a smell in the rooms. The other solution is to provide kennels for the pets, but then you have the problem of their litter everywhere in the park. So probably leave the animals in the kennel at home is the best solution.

Thanks,

Shirley Stevens
1A Brawley Road
Charleston WV 25314
304/344-949400

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Comments re: allowing pets at parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Auplage2000@aol.com [mailto:Auplage2000@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 6:31 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Comments re: allowing pets at parks

To Whom It May Concern:

My personal opinion in regard to having pet friendly rooms at the WV State Park cabins and lodges is that it is not wise to begin such a practice. Should there be no other room available other than the Pet Friendly ones, I would not accept it and look for alternate places to stay.

The lodges and cabins at our West Virginia State Parks are absolutely beautiful. They are a treasure and shouldn't be ruined with pet hairs, pets odors, and not-properly-trained dogs and cats.

Have you considered the fact that every pet may not be trained as well as you would expect? How bad will that room smell, and how much "Fabreeze" would it require to mask the odor? (Fabreeze, itself, is easily recognizable, and I am always weary of what is trying to be covered up when used.)

Then there is the issue of allergies. Should a person who suffers from pet allergies book such a room and not be aware of it as previously hosting a pet, or be told the room has been cleaned well enough not to notice, I can't imagine it still wouldn't affect them. If extremely affected, would the allergy-sufferer file a law suit, seeking medical expense reimbursement, for example?

I am not a cigarette smoker, and am sensitive to smoke. In the past, I have been offered smoking rooms when trying to book a room at my favorite hotels when non-smoking rooms are not available. A smoking room is unacceptable to me, no matter how well they say it's been cleaned and aired out. The same goes for a pet friendly room. I will book my accommodations elsewhere.

Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to offer my input on the idea of allowing pet friendly rooms and for your consideration of my comments. Please do not change the no-pets rule at state park lodging!

Patricia R. Pope
1401 Mount Vernon Road
Charleston, WV 25314

Tricia Sizemore

From: Glenna Burdette [bpcsecretary@frognet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

NO! I am not in favor of allowing pets, cats or dogs, in state park cabins or lodge rooms. I expect these facilities to be clean. Glenna Burdette

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dennie & Helen Hoffman [helden@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 8:53 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

We would rather stay in a State Park Lodge that didn't allow Pets in the rooms. Some people are allergic to them and could cause a health concern.

The Hoffman,s

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jack Wade [jlwade@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 8:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Ccomment about Pets

I am sure this policy would be abused. I do not wish to go to bed in a room where pets have been staying.
Jack Wade

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hickman, Verl [Verl.Hickman@goodrich.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 7:57 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Even though I am a dog and cat fancier, and groom and train my animals, I do **not** think it is a good idea to permit guests to keep dogs and cats in park cabins and lodge rooms. Not all guests will be responsible pet owners. There will be flee infestations to try and get rid of and the smell of dog - not to mention the smell of urine. I would be more in favor of providing suitable kenneling facilities for overnight arrangements for pets - various size cages in a room that can be hosed down.

If the decision is made to allow pets to stay in cabins and lodge rooms, will there be a requirement that guests provide up-to-date vaccination records? This should also be a requirement if kenneling facilities were provided.

I feel the current rule permitting leashed pets in camp grounds is sufficient. Pet owners can keep pets in their tents or mobile homes to their hearts content. A barking dog in camping areas, though sometimes annoying, is tolerable; but one in a lodge room will generate a flood of complaints to the front desk by irate guests..

Verl "Butch" Hickman

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sally Caldwell [ocra@citynet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 11:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

I am against allowing pets to stay in cabins in WV state parks. Many people have allergies and animals rank high among the list of allergies. Guests following pet owners could have allergic reactions. Also, some animals are well trained, but others are not.

Sally Caldwell

Tricia Sizemore

From: Juanita Burke [pburke@ctc.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:04 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

ALTHOUGH WE LIVE IN NC, WE ARE FROM WV AND COME TO THE STATE PARK LODGES OFTEN. WE ARE NOT ANIMAL LOVERS AND WILL NOT STAY IN MOTELS THAT ALLOW PETS, SO I HOPE THAT WV WILL NOT ALLOW PETS IN THEIR LODGE ROOMS AS THAT WOULD PUT AN END TO OUR GETTING TO ENJOY THE LODGES IN YOUR STATE PARKS. ALSO, YOU SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THOSE WHO ARE ALLERGIC TO PETS.

THANK YOU,
J. BURKE

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bill Cockerham [blackoak@citlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 10:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

I do not support the idea of pets in cabins or lodge rooms. To me it seems to be an easy way to infest our facilities with fleas. I would be very upset if I or one of my family got bitten by a flea in one of our state park lodge rooms or cabin. I would understand an exception for a seeing eye dog.

Bill Cockerham
Princeton, WV.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carl L goff [cgoff36@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 10:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am against letting dogs and cats in the cabins and the lodge rooms. I will be a little blunt but here are my reasons why not.

I use the parks a lot, so far this year I have camped 37 days and used the parks 3 more times while my wife and I travel over WV. I hope to use them 70 to 80 days a year.

The dogs and cats are getting to be a problem. People leave for the day and leave them in their trailers all day and they bark and bark. They lead them to another persons camp to shit and piss on their camp site. They turn them loose at night to go where they want to. I have seen a family bring 5 dogs with them. The dogs in another site bark at dogs in other sites. Some camper bring cats with them and they get loose and all the dogs in the camp start to bark at them. I hope it never happens but someday some child is going to get bit by one of them.
I see no reason why the people in the cabins and lodge rooms would be any different.

I am sorry but I will not rent a cabin or stay in a lodge room where a dog and cat has stayed. I love dogs but they have their place.

Carl L. Goff
80 Whitetail Dr.
Parkersburg, WV. 26104

E-Mail---cgoff36@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Norma Goff [lynncampcousin@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 9:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Having stayed in several cabins at our state parks in the past, I would be very reluctant to stay after having someone's dogs or cats stay in that cabin. Who has the job of disinfecting and de-fleaing it? Are you planning on providing litter boxes? It is bad enough to have to listen to dogs barking in the camping grounds. How do you intend on keeping them quiet in the cabins or lodges? Some people lock their dogs up in their trailers and leave for the day. Campers in adjoining campsites have to listen to these dogs bark all day. This is a very bad idea, in my opinion. Norma Goff

Tricia Sizemore

From: Paul D. Melton [pdmelton@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 1:24 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Although I like animals and believe in people's right to own and enjoy them, I would be adamantly opposed to allowing them in cabins and lodge rooms. There are several reasons for my opinion:

1. No matter how clean, pets leave an odor and guests following their stay would have to tolerate it.
2. Many guests who might follow pet occupations are allergic to pet dander. 3. Pets have fleas. 4. Cats and dogs both have the potential to damage the property. Cats will almost assuredly cause damage to furniture and some fixtures. Both cats and dogs will create additional costs for cleaning and maintenance. 5. It is really very tiring to have to tolerate other peoples' pets as well as their droppings at almost any outdoor public gathering. I have been almost knocked down several times by uncontrolled dogs. Allowing pets to stay overnight would invite their presence every place guests gather. That is not fair to the other guests.
6. Having pets, especially dogs, on the property may eventually create additional cash outlays for play areas, etc.

Paul D. Melton
PO Box 445
Boomer, WV 25031

304-779-2481
pdmelton@charter.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dave Criss [joda@ntelos.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 11:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Comment about Pets

My wife is allergic to animal dander and has serious reactions to it. I'm sure that many other people have the same condition. I do not believe that pets should be allowed in cabins or lodge rooms that are shared by people who are possibly allergic to them. The cost of cleaning after animals and repair of damages done by them would increase the cost of maintaining our parks. Also, I do not believe in permitting pets in parks where natural wildlife abounds. It can be hazardous to the wildlife and to the pets.
Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

David H. Criss
HC 71 Box 123
Ellamore, WV 26267

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 9:38 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: DHDharris@aol.com [mailto:DHDharris@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 10:29 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Parks

I do not agree with the proposal to allow pets in park lodging facilities. People don't clean up after their pets. I personally will not stay in a room or cabin that has had a dog or cat due to allergies. You can't clean a room sufficiently after having a pet stay. Additionally, the mess of a pet doing its business around the facilities is disgusting.

If pets are allowed, we will look elsewhere for our weekend stays. The park system will lose business.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mhoulihanocy@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 9:54 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

I do not think that the policy should be changed to allow pets in cabins/lodges. One of the most relaxing features of visiting state parks is getting a break from the noise and "dirt" that are present everywhere else, because of irresponsible pet owners. Another major issue is the threat to the park wildlife, again from pet owners who aren't particularly careful. I would hope state park visitors would be conscientious about their pets, but if they aren't at home, they certainly won't be on vacation!

Thank you for opportunity to provide feedback on this topic.

Susan Healy, visitor to Cacapon State Park every summer for the past 40 years! :)

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marianne Moran [cvb@marioncvb.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 10:03 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public comment about pets

I have been a pet owner for more than 30 years, but I do ***NOT*** think that pets should be allowed in state parks cabins or lodges. Guests can leave their pets at home with friends, family or board them at a kennel or vet's office.

Our state parks are in desperate need of renovation anyway. It would be disastrous to add the damage that pets could cause on top of our already old and outdates lodging facilities in most of our parks. Even the best trained pet gets nervous or excited when taken into strange surroundings and can have "accidents" on the carpet and tear up a room.

I strongly urge you not to introduce legislation to allow pets in our state parks.

This is my personal opinion and does not reflect the position of The Convention & Visitors Bureau of Marion County in any way.

Marianne Moran, Director
The Convention & Visitors Bureau of Marion County, Inc.
110 Adams Street
Fairmont, WV 26554
(304) 368-1123
fax (304) 363-0480
THE OFFICIAL DESTINATION MARKETING ORGANIZATION FOR MARION COUNTY

Tricia Sizemore

From: Roberts, Charles H. [ch.roberts@ngc.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 5:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think this is a bad idea. There are a lot of us, myself and my children included, that have pet allergies. Also, having pets stay would increase wear and tear on the properties resulting in higher maintenance costs. These additional costs would be borne by everyone, including those without pets.

Tricia Sizemore

From: HWDW@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2005 11:48 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not think that's a good thing. a lot of people do not like pets indoors. I for one would not want to stay in a cabin where there had ben a cat for a week.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bruce Bosley [bbosley@chaptech.com]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 5:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

We would be against allowing pets in cabins for the simple fact that there is the potential for flea infestations as well as other animal problems. It would be disturbing to go to a cabin and have fleas or whatever jumping on you from the previous persons pet. Additionally, some pets have long hair and can contribute to allergies in some persons, which contribute to respiratory illnesses and the like. If pets are allowed in cabins, we will not be staying at any cabins from here to forward because several persons in our family have respiratory issues and we cannot chance any of us getting sick from musty pet smells, pet hair dander, etc. We have enjoyed our stays at WV's cabin parks for their cleanliness and the fresh open air. We feel that for pets to be allowed in cabins would deter folks like us from driving several hours to get to a cabin that we cannot stay in. If we had to take one of our family members to the doctor because of pet odors, pet droppings, etc. left over...the state of WV would be getting the bill and perhaps more if need be!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Mr & Mrs Bruce Bosley
Cross Lanes, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wiltrout, Susie [wiltrouts@rcbhsc.wvu.edu]
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 3:12 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

no pets, I have allergies to pet dander, people are sickening with their dogs, I don't want to listen to them bark, no pets

Susan Wiltrout, RN
Manager, Clinical Services
Ob/Gyn Clinic, POC
Center of Excellence in Women's Health
ph. 304-598-4899
page #1046

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing Pets at West Virginia State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Larry Wolfe [mailto:lcwolfe@charter.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 9:53 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Allowing Pets at West Virginia State Parks

Attn.: John R. Pope,

On the subject of allowing pets into our beautiful state parks, I am totally against such a proposal. I am not anti-pet, but I am against allowing pets in the parks. I use the state park campgrounds and allowing pets in would cause me to re-think my camping destinations. I have also camped in many private campgrounds THAT DO allow pets and I have personally experienced people that, upon arrival at the campground, release their pets to run freely, regardless of the campground rule that states that all pets must be kept on a leash for the duration of their stay. For some reason pet owner's seem to think this means kids and NOT their beloved dog, cat, etc.....

I have had more than one camping trip spoiled by inconsiderate pet owners, whose dog messes in my camp site or just hangs around my camp site and even a few times have had unleashed dogs that have snapped at my kids.....

Therefore, I am totally opposed to any law that will allow pets into our state parks. If such a law passes, I will camp only at private campgrounds where the rules will be the same as the state laws, plus I will have full hookups for my trailer, unlike most state park campgrounds and also at a lower nightly rate...

Sincerely,
Larry Wolfe
Saint Albans, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Anthony Dishner [adishner@sunlitsurf.com]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 1:12 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: ardishner@yahoo.com
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To whom it may concern; I do not favor keeping pets in cabins at state parks or lodge rooms. The main reason for this is the smell that they will leave behind and overall uncleaniless. Most motels and hotels do not allow pets so why would we want to soil our fantastic facilities? I do not think that not allowing pets will have any negative impacts. Thanks AR Dishner

Tricia Sizemore

From: theharrisons99@zoomtown.com

Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 9:31 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not think that they should be allowed. I don't like the thought of being in a place where animals have been running around. Plus, they are a nuisance to other people. People are there to enjoy the peace and quiet. Some dogs bark at anything. Also, people don't always control their pets. They may have them on a lease, but they will let the dog come up to you and sniff you and put their wet nose on you. It is pretty irratating.

Jennifer

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 9:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Bob and Ginny [mailto:surgeons@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 7:53 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in cabins

Greetings,
As a husband and wife who stay in a park cabin (Holley River) every year and sometimes twice a year, we would like to say very strongly that we are OPPOSED to allowing pets in cabins. The reasons are many -
fleas
odors
stepping in their 'messes' outside
noise
diseases
damage to cabins and furnishings requiring an increase in cost for rental
added work for cleaning crew requiring more time to clean, thus causing an increase in cost for rental

At one time, pets were allowed and then it was stopped. THAT MUST HAVE BEEN FOR A GOOD REASON.
Please, do not allow this to happen.
thanks
Bob and Ginny Surgeon
336 Church Street
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Tricia Sizemore

From: David Dagwell [dddagwell@access4less.net]
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2005 6:57 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hi,
I am against allowing dogs in rooms or cabins.
If you do, you should only allow in specified rooms & cabins.
Thanks for your consideration.

David Dagwell
dddagwell@access4less.net
EarthLink Revolves Around You.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 3:42 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets at Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Buffalo Clover [mailto:buffaloclover@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 3:40 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets at Parks

Dear Mr. Pope,

I believe the motto "Where People and Nature Meet" should be your guide when deciding whether to allow pets at some state park cabins.

Please do not jeopardize our ability to see deer and turkey from our cabin because the neighboring cabin has a dog leashed to its front porch, intimidating the park's native residents from their accustomed rounds. State park cabins are more than places to spend the night; they are where we go to commune with nature. I am there to see nature, not dogs.

One bark would irritate me, and having to go to a telephone to complain would take time and enjoyment away from my cabin stay. Nothing would stop dog owners from walking throughout the entire cabin area with their dog on a leash (or off leash if/when they think they could get away with it). That is why a designated dog cabin would not protect the rest of the cabin residents from interaction with dogs.

I do see why people want to bring their pets, as we have a cat and I know she would love staying in a cabin. But I favor continuing the pet-ban in order to preserve the overall clean and serene natural atmosphere surrounding state park cabins. When we travel in other states we try to camp and lodge where pets are prohibited.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

We have camped at Babcock, Pipestem, Camp Creek, North Bend, Holly River, Plum Orchard, Watoga, and Twin Falls.

We have stayed in a lodge or cabins at Hawks Nest, Babcock, Bluestone, Cass, Watoga, Blackwater Falls, North Bend, Pipestem, Twin Falls, and Greenbrier State Forest.

Katy Miller
Thurmond West Virginia

Tricia Sizemore

From: Richard Holcombe [richardholcombe@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 10:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

No Pets is the best policy. Allergies! Do the employees really want the extra work. I doubt it.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kent & Julie Miller [Kmille1@columbus.rr.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 10:52 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am very opposed to having pets in cabins or lodge facilities. An exception to this is working dogs for those with severe vision disabilities. Many people have allergies to dogs, and they are very messy. I have young children that are very timid and sometimes scared of dogs. Unfortunately, many people with pets are not responsible to clean up after their pets. Dogs also bark and that is not what I enjoy hearing when I go to a state park and want to be surrounded by nature. I wouldn't think native animals would enjoy this either.

Keep the dogs at home (please).

Julie Miller

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hanrahan, Gary V (GE Consumer & Industrial) [Gary.Hanrahan@ge.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 4:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do not allow pets into any of your accommodations.

> Gary Hanrahan
>

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debi McCoy [dmccoy@wvwcc.org]
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 2:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks



Debi McCoy.vcf
(186 B)

Dear Mr. Pope,
I do not feel that all cabins should allow pets. There should be certain ones that allow pets with STRICT guidelines and rules. If you are a responsible pet owner this would not be a problem. It would allow for more folks to take advantage of the cabins. Debi McCoy

Debi Ball-McCoy
Corporate Affairs
Phone:(304) 926-3400 ext. 5546
Fax: (304) 558-2781
ATTENTION EMPLOYERS & MEDICAL PROVIDERS:
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http://ecomp.wvwcc.org

Tricia Sizemore

From: David and Stephanie Williams [dastealwill@charter.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 2:07 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I personally don't like to stay where animals have stayed before. I have a dog and two cats...they stay behind when we vacation or do an overnight somewhere. Unless it is a seeing-eye dog, there really is no reason for people to bring their pets on vacation.
Stephanie Williams
304-877-5917

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 9:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing pets in WV State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: clara dawn [mailto:claradwv@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2005 8:44 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Cc: clara Dawn Ralston
Subject: Allowing pets in WV State Parks

To: John Pope

Our neighbor, brought over an article, that was in the paper. The article was titled,"Allowing pets in WV State Parks", Since, my husband and I had managed a campground approximately 4-5 years ago.
We experienced a lot of of problems due to campers being allowed to bring dogs with
them to the their campsite.
One, annoying problem, was letting their dogs run loose- sometimes as many as four
at a time. This created another big annoyance- Doo-Doo everywhere-. Also, they would let
their dogs get on other campers sites and do their business. Some campers, would re-
spect other campers rights, by making sure they put their Doo-Doo in a plastic bag.
Very few campers would do this.!!!
Another big problem, campers would do, was turn their dogs loose at dark and wee hours
in the morning- the dogs would bark 24-7 . You can bet, sleep was hard to get.!!!
We had two children to get bitten by a dog even though they

were suppose to keep their
dog on a leash at all times-you always have some campers won't obey the rules.
In essence,having the experience as Camp Managers, we know all to well the problems
and stress by allowing pets in WV parks and campgrounds.
My husband and I both agree,more money should be alloted by the Legislature for re-
pairs and upkeep. WE DO NOT WANT RULE TO CHANGE!!!

Thanking You,

Glen and Clara Dawn Ralston

.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Christine Ruble [hocus_pocus@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 12:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not think that having pets in the rooms are a good idea. The destruction they will cause will only raise the rates of the rooms, and I personally don't like to step in dog pee in my socks or bare feet.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna Moore [dkmoore@wv-cis.net]

Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 8:32 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do NOT allow pets in the rooms and cabins. I have allergies to cats and dogs. I cannot even pet any animals without having an allergic reaction, let alone sleeping in a room where an animal has been. I had a severe reaction in the past because I was in an apartment where a cat had been previously. Even though it had been cleaned, it still did not get all the pet dander out of the carpet.

Only give the exception of pets to the blind and disabled.

Thank you for considering this need to NOT allow pets in the rooms,

Donna Moore

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:47 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: dogs in state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Terry W. Queen [mailto:wtd01183@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 6:10 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: dogs in state parks

there is nothing more annoying than being on vacation and have to put up with barking dogs! people go on vacation to get away from the everyday/week routines. besides the barking everytime someone walks by, there is the smelly dog crap. sure the dog "might" go in the woods for his business, but who's going to clean it up? not the owner, because he doesn't know where every pile is and after time the serinity around the cabins will have the odor of dog everywhere.P.U. and walking around will become a problem because your going to have to be on the lookout for dog piles. i personally think the pet ruling should remain as it is, then we all can enjoy the peace and quiet and have good clean air to breath.
thank you,
Terry W. Queen

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets being allowed in state park hotels

-----Original Message-----
From: Lila [mailto:luke100@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:13 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets being allowed in state park hotels

I just wanted to express my opinion on pets being able to stay in our state park hotels. I am an animal lover myself but I can not agree with keeping pets in hotel/lodges across the state. Between flea infestation and the other things they leave behind it just to much. Many people own pets and love them dearly as I do, but I can't expect others to put up with what I do in MY HOUSE. Hope the system will rethink this and not allow pets in the rooms. If they want to build a kennel on the property for folks to drop their pets off for the night and walk them of the day, that would be fine. It would not have to be that big and would solve the problem. The guest could pay a small fee for this privilege to bring their pets with them. This could not cost much more than all the extra spraying and cleaning of guest rooms.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: About pets in cabins & lodges.

-----Original Message-----
From: WVBuck@aol.com [mailto:WVBuck@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:04 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: About pets in cabins & lodges.

As a pet owner, of both cats and dogs I am dead against it. We have an indoor dog and outside cat and dog. Some pets like to mark there area to much when put in a strange area. Point blank, that smell will just run you out and cost more for upkeep and maintaince. Can't trust the pet owner to keep an eye on them 24 hrs per day when pet is inside.

Thank you,
Charlie Russell
Wellsburg, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:18 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: J.R. POPE

-----Original Message-----
From: FGL46VHS@aol.com [mailto:FGL46VHS@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 11:21 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: ATT: J.R. POPE

Dear Mr. Pope: I am responding in regards to your proposal to allow pets in our state parks. I am certainly against this 100%. My stay at state parks is to get away for some peace and quiet especially barking dogs and dog "Poop". What other pets are you talking about? You just can't discriminate against other pets such as cats, pot belly pigs, cobra snakes and even the pet camel from Shinnston that fell on the lady painting a fence. The only pet[s] allowed should be a seeing eye dogs for the blind. What if a pit bull broke loose from it's leash and mauled or even killed a child or an adult walking on the roadway? This would certainly be a case for a "High Powered Lawyer". I have stayed in several WV State Parks since the late sixties and most have been at Watoga because of being not too far from the WV Stae Fair.
If you maintain last year's records you will note that I left the park two [2] days early because a family had "snuk" in two dogs I beleive in Cabin #5. Most every time we went up to eat at the diner here a lady had these dogs out "Popping" in the yard. Why were these dog's or family not removed from the park? Your service truck[s] went by and they had to notice this. Will all parks have to hire dog warden's? Your maintenance men will not have time to patrol this situation all day and night to keep things lawful. Now if you would rather have dogs or other pets instead of people staying at your parks then I will go to plan B and go to Dillan State Park in Ohio and attend Ohio State Fair. NO pets are allowed in cabin area's, only in camp grounds in Ohio. By the way wouldn't local health department's have to check cabins often because of mostly fleas especially from late March till late October during the warm weather? You all have a "DOG" gone good day. I will be standing by to hear what happens to our wonderful state parks. I hope they don't go to the "Dogs".
Sincerely yours,
Fred G. Layman
RR 3 BOX 64 C
CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA 26301

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: No Pets Rule

-----Original Message-----
From: TLMHarris@aol.com [mailto:TLMHarris@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 10:23 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: No Pets Rule

Hello -

I would like to comment on the above. I don't agree on letting pets inside cabins or lodges. They can leave their dog/cat hair which can cause alot of problems for those with allergies, asthma, sinus conditions, etc. They can also do their business around the cabin/lodge area. Most people do not clean up after their pets. This is disgusting, especially if you step in it! If you have small children, you'd have to watch every step they made especially if where you stay has a nice play area outside.

DNR spokesman Hoy Murphy feels the parks have lost business from people who don't want to travel without their pets. They will definitely lose business if it is allowed. Those of us that are not pet lovers but enjoy the parks may have to vacation in other states. This would be really sad. We just returned from Watoga, and visit the state parks year round.

T. Harris

Tricia Sizemore

From: Walt Arnett [waltarnett@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 8:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think allowing pets is a move backwards and is not a good idea. There are far too many negatives and not enough positives for this action. Bringing pets from a home environment to an outside area is stressful to the animal as well as endangering the pet as well as the wildlife animals. There are many other reasons that pets should not be allowed in State Park areas overnight. These pets can make cleanup for the park much more cumbersome and full of risks. Pets can bring fleas and dander to the rooms and cabins, causing sickness in later guests. I think the only exception is for seeing-eye dogs. If hotels don't allow pets, neither should State Parks.

Thanks,

Walt Arnett

Walt Arnett
(859) 543-2230

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at www.FurniTrader.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: BradandMic Cochran [bradandmiccochran@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 7:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in lodging facilities

To whom it may concern:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the decision to allow pets in the state park lodging facilities - both cabins and lodges.

While I know that many folks consider their pets to be members of their families, not everyone is amenable to having animals in their homes (which is what your lodging facilities become when we stay with you). I am against allowing pets in the lodging facilities due to severe allergy and asthma problems that not only I, but my daughter and several nieces and nephews, suffer. Guests who are allowed to bring their animals into these facilities prior to our arrival could cause one of us to suffer an asthma attack that would require immediate medical attention. Since most of your parks are not close to hospitals, it may mean a matter of life and death to someone who has a severe reaction.

Please, consider the health and welfare of ALL your guests when making a decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you would like to contact me, my info is as follows:

Michelle Cochran
23 Osprey Rd.
Beckley, WV 25801
304-253-1213

Tricia Sizemore

From: somart [somart@cox.net]

Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 12:00 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

People's pets do not belong in hotel rooms or state park cabins. If it's important to have their pets with them in the great outdoors, they can camp. The cost of house cleaning and maintenance will go up. What parent wants to worry about the dog in the cabin or room next door and wether or not it bites? Doesn't that create a liabilility issue?

thank you

Jane Browning
somart@cox.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bill & Louise Henthorn [wrhelh@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 10:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: wrhelh@charter.net
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my plea that "A possible rule change that would permit overnight park guests to keep pets (dogs and/or cats) in state park cabins and possibly in lodge rooms" would not be considered. My wife and I were both brought up around animals, but their place was not in the home with us. We have had much loved pets, but not house pets. We are both highly allergic to most animal dander. We love staying in state lodges. Believe me, WE DO NOT WANT TO STAY IN A FACILITY WHERE ANIMALS FREQUENT!

Respectfully,

William R. Henthorn
Eva L. Henthorn
Rt. 1, Box 386
New Martinsville, WV 26155

Tricia Sizemore

From: leon valentine [lvalentine@zzzip.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 9:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I suggest the present rules remain as is in WV State Parks.No Pets! Leon Valentine
Parkersburg, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Smith MGySgt Rickey L (ACE HMM-364 MAINTENANCE MAINT CHIEF) [SmithRL@acemnf-wiraq.usmc.mil]

Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 2:04 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

NO PETS IN THE ROOMS NOR IN THE LOBBY. ANIMAL DANDER, HAIR,AND ODORS SHOULD REMAIN OUTSIDE. I ENJOY CLEAN, COMFORTABLE AND QUIET PLACES. DOGS HAVE A TENDENCY TO BARK THRU THE NIGHT AT NO DISTURBANCE TO THE OWNERS. PLEASE KEEP OUR ACCOMMODATIONS GEARED TOWARD PEOPLE AND LEAVE THE PETS AT HOME. THANK YOU AND I'LL SEE YA THIS FALL ONCE I GET HOME FROM IRAQ...I NEED A VACATION.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dsoldaker@wmconnect.com

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:26 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT PETS SHOULD BE PERMITTED IN CABINS OR LODGE ROOMS. THERE ARE SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO MAY BE ALLERGIC TO PET DANDER AND IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET RID OF IT .I ALSO FEEL THIS IS UNSANITARY. THANK YOU

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charlie [clk@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 7:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I vote "No" to allow animals in the cabins and rooms and on the grounds at WV State Parks.

I do not wish to listen to or to smell a dog or cat (a pet) that someone else adores and lives with. If the pet owners are so attached to their pets, let them stay at home and keep their pets on their property on which they pay taxes and are covered by insurance. Please do not make me, and others like me, share with someone's pet my private space which my tax dollars and other moneys go to support when I attend a park.

Thank you,
Charles L. Kidd
731 Monroe Street
Mount Hope, WV 25880
304-877-2895

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rickbelpre@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 7:25 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: pets in cabins

Hello,
While I have a dog I dearly love and enjoy being with her in the outdoors, I feel pets in the cabins or lodges will create more confusion and tension and should be avoided. Dogs will chase other dogs and cats and wildlife. Another concern is pet dander that can create a reaction for many people.

Thanks,
Rick

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robert Carvell [rcarvell@mountain.net]

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 6:03 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am opposed to the proposal to allow pets in rooms at the parks. My wife and I travel a good bit, and must always have non smoking and non pet rooms. To me, they are merely unpleasant, but my wife is highly allergic to pets. If it is necessary to allow pets, I would hope a small number of rooms would be set aside, and the restriction on the others strictly enforced.

Thank you

Robert L. Carvell

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara Elam [belam3@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 5:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I don't agree with letting pets in all of the cabins. There are a lot of people with allergies who this would bother. I don't have animals and it doesn't bother me. But my grandchildren do. I like it the way it is because you can get out in the yard area and not have to worry about dog do. Cats strach the door facings and everything else. Plus some even spray on things.
We stay at the state parks every-other year. We enjoy the fact there are know cats and dogs. The cabins don't stink.

Thank You
Barbara Elam

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 1:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pet policy

-----Original Message-----
From: Ellis Julie A [mailto:Julie.A.Ellis@irs.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:11 AM
To: 'Parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Pet policy

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing concerning my opinion of allowing cats and dogs in West Virginia State Park cabins. While I own two dogs and a cat and am a animal lover I don't know if allowing our furry friends would be a good idea. While most pet owners are responsible I would worry that some pet owners would abuse the privilege as with anything. You have to wonder with the rustic cabins how the dog hair situation would be. Also, I don't relish the idea of trying to dodge doggie poo while outside the cabins. Again, I am a animal lover and I have to board my pets whenever we do visit state parks but I don't think it would be a good idea to allow dogs in the cabins. Also you have to wonder about the damage that dogs could do to the cabins. Puppies chew and even adult dogs and I would hate to see these cabins destroyed or tore up.

Thank you!!!
Julie A. Ellis
204 Granville Avenue
Beckley, WV 25801
JulieAEllis@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:55 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing pets in WV State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Jerijunhicks@aol.com [mailto:Jerijunhicks@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:46 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Allowing pets in WV State Parks

To: John R. Pope

I wish to express my disapproval of allowing pets in WV State Parks. I enjoy staying in the cabins and lodges in West Virginia and do so on a regular basis. If the rule is changed, I will not continue to utilize the WV Park system.

Dogs are noisy. I have personally experienced camping trips that have been cut short by an inconsiderate camper leaving an unattended dog tied up and barking for extended periods at Holly River and Watoga in the camp grounds. I have been chased by dogs while riding my bicycle and lunged at by dog's at tent/trailer State camping sites. I no longer trailer or tent camp for this reason and stay in cabins to have some peace and quiet.

Pets are destructive. Some pet owners do clean up after their pets, however, the vast majority do not. I guess my tax dollars will pay for any of their animals accidents or playfulness.

If there is no one to rent the "pet cabins" do you plan to leave them empty and lose the rent, or is the plan to rent to someone who may suffer from asthma induced by animal dander.

The claim by Mr. Murphy that business is lost because people cannot bring their pets must be at the parks where I do not stay. I have experienced difficulty reserving cabins due to unavailability during camping and hunting season. If the State Parks System is losing money it is because of the Legislature's neglect to allot money for upkeep and repair. My tax dollars seem to go to Parks with golf courses instead of areas that offer peaceful retreats.

Please do not change the rule.

Sincerely

Jerry and June Hicks

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Cats & Dogs

-----Original Message-----
From: Jane Norris [mailto:skeeteralm@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 5:13 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Cats & Dogs

I am writing in response to the article of possibly allowing animals in state parks, mainly cats and dogs. My family and I are members of the V.I.P.P. program and have begun visiting parks and plan to visit many more in the future. The thoughts of having cats and dogs in the parks would change my mind. My daughter has allergies and is highly allergic to cat dandruff. Cats shed dandruff all the time that is why they lick themselves. The thoughts of an animal shedding anything where I want to prepare food for my family is totally disgusting. The thoughts of their waste where my children and grandchildren take their shoes off and play turns me away. With the recent death of the toddler by a dog says enough about how much you can trust them. You can't. A small dog can bite a child and feel like a great dane.

I have lived in WV all my life and think the beauty here is often reathless. I become a tour guide when family visits from out of state and nave even had family reunions at state parks. I am proud of our state parks, I am not inconveniencing anyone by visiting them. Pets visiting state parks is an inconvenience to me and my family. We do not visit or recommend any establishment which allows pets. The thought of sleeping in animal dandruff and hearing others bark all night or every time an owner leaves them in their room is enough to turn us away. I hope I do not have to include my own state parks on the no visit list.

The Maynard Family
Beckley, WV

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:08 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: My thoughts on Animals in cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: phylhines@netscape.com [mailto:phylhines@netscape.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 12:50 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: My thoughts on Animals in cabins

PLEASE!! Don't even THINK about allowing animals to bring in their FLEAS, TICKS, URINATION, and any other un-healthy un-wanted yuck that they carry in!!! to our State Cabins and Lodges... I for one, am VERY allergic to flea bites. Not to mention (I like sleeping on beds for People only)
When I heard on the news that this animal option is being considered, I just couldn't believe it! I know I am not by myself in this.
I have no problem with pets, as long as they are in their natural habitat, which is "the great outdoors". Thats why God put fur on them!
If pets will be allowed in our cabins & lodges, I grant their will be MANY people that will go on to motels, rather than itch all night, because someone had a flea infested dog in the cabins bed!
I certainly hope more people voice their oppinion on this & nip this bad idea in the bud!!! Thanks for hopefully reconsidering...
James & Phyllis Hines

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Mark Coppala [mcoppala@charter.net]

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:53 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am against the proposal to allow pets in lodge rooms and cabins. I feel the negatives associated with allowing this could include possible damage to rooms, added work for housekeeping and noise problems. Also, I question whether or not the rooms could be cleaned sufficiently for future guests who suffer from dog/cat allergies.
Tammy Coppala

Tricia Sizemore

From: Donna R. McCoy [drgmccoy@charter.net]

Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:43 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

One of our favorite things while visiting a State Park is watching the wildlife, especially the deer, squirrels, and chipmunks in our cabin yards. I feel that allowing pets in the cabins or lodges would compromise the freedom of wildlife to roam the areas. Even if there were cabins designated especially for patrons with pets, the other areas would also be affected.

Other concerns would be the possibility of activating allergies if one stayed in a cabin that had been previously occupied by a pet, and the need for being concerned about pet waste while out walking.

Therefore, I would hope that pets will not be allowed in the cabins or lodges. Have any of the parks ended up with empty cabins or rooms because of this issue? It has been our experience in the past that the parks we wanted to visit were well booked.

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

Donna R. McCoy
Ravenswood, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:10 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: State Park Cabins and Lodges

For your survey

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Lenoragram@aol.com [mailto:Lenoragram@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 7:11 PM
To: John Pope
Subject: State Park Cabins and Lodges

It has come to my attention that you are soliciting public comments regarding pets in cabins and lodge rooms. To that end, the following is offered:

My husband, three children and five grandchildren spend a week at a different state park every summer. If dogs are allowed in cabins, we no longer will subject the children to hair, fleas and pet dander left behind by previous occupants of the cabin, nor would we take the chance of occupying a cabin where there was a barking or yapping dog in a neighboring cabin. Pet owners do not often clean up after their dogs. A cabin yard filled with dog feces is no place for small children to play.

It is a very, very bad idea to even consider having pets in cabins. I trust you will take these comments under serious consideration.
Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: rbhiser1@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 7:01 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I%20have%20a%20comment%20on%20pets%20in%20cabins%20at%20WV%20State%20Parks

Please DO NOT allow pets in cabins and lodge rooms. While we are animal lovers we do not want to live with them. We have learned from past experience that the presence, hair, smell, etc., never leaves the room no matter how well cleaned. I know pet owners will disclaim this but non owners can always tell. Thank you for the opportunely to comment on this subject.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Deana [deana@cebridge.net]

Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 8:24 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I do not wish to be in a Cabin or Lodge Room after pets have been there before me. My family has alergeries and some people don't clean up after their animals. deana@cebridge.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Harry and Sharon [halbaugh@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 8:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Please do not allow pets in lodge rooms.
Sincerely, Harry and Sharon

Tricia Sizemore

From: Teressa Stanley [tstanley65@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 9:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: i have a comment on pets in cabins at wv state parks

I will find other lodging when visiting the state parks if pets are allowed in the cabins, etc... I have pets, but they stay home when I travel.
Teressa Stanley
tstanley65@earthlink.net
Why Wait? Move to EarthLink.

Trisha

Patty Taylor

From: Richard Worlledge [wvpoppy@sunlitsurf.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 11:23 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: NO DOGS OR CATS.....

Sir, I think the worse thing you could do is let animals in the parks. The owners do not obey rules, some of them, and the animal will run around the park, there will be "mess" in the road and grass when you go for a walk or go to the restrooms, lots of people like my son with breathing problems could not be even close to them, and they would be a bigger problem then you have now. That is the one thing we have always enjoyed about WV parks.
If people can not leave their animals , then they should stay home with them. Everyones taxes pay for the parks, so no one group should ALWAYS have the say , as it seems to be. I do not hate animals, but there is a place for them. and it is not where it offends others. Thank you, Pat Worlledge Hico, WV 25854

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Tricia Sizemore

From: DEBBIE WILLIAMS [kelsielulu@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 11:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

no

i think that people should leave the animals at home i love dogs and have 4 2 large and 2 smaller ones but nothing is worse than going somewhere and hearing dogs bark or stepping in some kind of poop and when you have pets inside there is always that smell that lingers no matter what you do. thank you debbie

John Pope

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 9:48 AM
To: John Pope
Subject: FW: pets.

NO

-----Original Message-----
From: shawn babines [mailto:pitfanz@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2005 5:19 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets.

I am a advid pet lover and have dogs and cats, Unfortunately all persons are not that way. Certain members of my family have severe allergies to cats and dogs. Sometimes triggering asma attacks. I do not feel as though person's in such a situation like myself should be left wondering if someone's pet had been on a site. I therefore feel that it is not a desirable action to permit them in cabins owned by the state.

John Pope

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 9:48 AM
To: John Pope
Subject: FW: Pets in Cabins or Lodge rooms

NO

-----Original Message-----
From: Duane Jones [mailto:dmaddj@wirefire.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2005 10:41 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins or Lodge rooms

I don't think pets should be allowed however I am open minded to a point. If you would allow pets in the cabins and or rooms you should limit which rooms this would be allowed in. I don't allow animals in my house, my son is alergic to cats and dogs so I sure wouldn't want to stay in a room where one had been. I think you should consider this when making your decision. My vote would be to leave it the way it is.

Duane Jones
4202 Cypress St.
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Patty Taylor

From: John Perez [jhperez@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 6:39 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pet Policy State Parks

Dear Sir/Madam:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposed changes to the pet policy in state park cabins, lodges, and campgrounds. My wife and I would like your agency to continue its ban on pets in all lodging accomodations in state parks. There are just to many negative issues associated with pets in rooms or cabins including; noise, waste, hair, and people's allergic reactions to pets.

We would also like to see the pet restriction expanded to campgrounds, if possible. This past Memorial Day weekend we had a wonderful time camping at Twin Falls State Park, with one exception. There were several campers that brought their pets with them to the park and caused no problem to neighboring campers. However, two camp sites had dogs tied to picnic tables that barked during the night and led to a sleepless night for most of their fellow campers. We know it may not be popular to ban pets from the campground, but something should be done to prevent barking dogs at night.

In closing, please maintain your ban on pets in all park accomodations, with the lone exception be seeing eye dogs, etc.

Thank you,

John & Becky Perez

Patty Taylor

From: shawn babines [pitfanz@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2005 5:19 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets.

I am a advid pet lover and have dogs and cats, Unfortunately all persons are not that way. Certain members of my family have severe allergies to cats and dogs. Sometimes triggering asma attacks. I do not feel as though person's in such a situation like myself should be left wondering if someone's pet had been on a site. I therefore feel that it is not a desirable action to permit them in cabins owned by the state.

Patty Taylor

From: Duane Jones [dmaddj@wirefire.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 01, 2005 10:41 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Cabins or Lodge rooms

I don't think pets should be allowed however I am open minded to a point. If you would allow pets in the cabins and or rooms you should limit which rooms this would be allowed in. I don't allow animals in my house, my son is alergic to cats and dogs so I sure wouldn't want to stay in a room where one had been. I think you should consider this when making your decision. My vote would be to leave it the way it is.

Duane Jones
4202 Cypress St.
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ron & Elizabeth Freeman [ealfreeman@adelphia.net]
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2005 12:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Perhaps pets could be allowed for a pet fee deposit that is non-refundable?

The Freeman

Tricia Sizemore

From: Howie [hjp@connecttime.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 6:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore

What is "certain park facilities"?

Tricia Sizemore

From: amanning [amanning6926@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2005 10:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Dear sirs:

I have spent a large portion of the last 40 years living in motels, due to my job. I can assure you that no matter how much a pet lover you are, that it is very discusting to pay a large price for a room , only to find pet hair on the carpet or furnature. It is also discusting to turn on the heat and find the room soon smells like a kennel. Just as non smokers deserve a room that doesn't smell like an ashtray, people also deserve a room that hasn't been used to house pets. I would also like to point out that some people are alergic to animals, (I am one) and no normal amount of normal cleaning can totaly remove the alergents present from a previous animal presents. Thank You.

Yours truly,
Gary Manning

Tricia Sizemore

From: Debbie [jwharmon1@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 16, 2005 1:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

i feel dogs in cabins would be o.k. but in lodge rooms 'NO" i would not like being in a room that a dog has used the bathroom in or when my family goes for a walk i would need to watch for dog piles.what if someone had it on their shoes and walked in the dining rooms.then what about the extra money that will be payed out in cleaning the carpet and the bedspeads .please do not let dogs in lodges. i think it would be a big mistake.what would happen if a child was bitten by a dog? i would not want to take a bath in a tub after a dog has been given a bath. dogs and cats were meant to be pets ""not humans""

Tricia Sizemore

From: joan barker [joanb@citynet.net]

Sent: Friday, July 15, 2005 6:23 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

it is my comment if people are goning to have pets anywhere they should have to cleanup after them because some of us don't like to walk in the mess THANK YOU

Tricia Sizemore

From: SONNPAT@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2005 7:05 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Pets should be allowed into state parks with certain rules that should be enforced. The pets should always be leashed and not kept outside alone or left alone in the camper all day, and should have all necessary shots. Pet owners should also have the freedom to walk their dogs anywhere in the park except where they could endanger themselves or the natural surroundings and also the bathhouses. Also no dangerous breeds. Children should not ever be left in charge of a dog whom they cannot control. I am a dog and cat owner and go camping often to a park that allows dogs and most owners are courteous of the other campers. We went to a state park in Pennsylvania that allowed dogs for the first time and the rules were ridiculous. We could not even walk our dog out of our loop, our dog is well behaved and loves to go for walks in the woods. We were very upset as we were told she was welcome, we would have rather stayed home. If you allow pets, please let them off the campsite and into the campground.

Tricia Sizemore

From: george feamster [gfeamster@charter.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 3:58 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I do not think that you should allow any animals with the exception of seeing-eye dogs in the lodge rooms, and only in cabins or cottages if the animals are kept in a portable kennel.
Thank you for your time.
George & Sandra Feamster

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jon Bobbera [jmb_gilbertwv@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 06, 2005 11:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

I am aware that many people see their animals as part of the family. Sometimes, too, situations arise where one must bring a pet. I was travelling once with guinea pigs that I had planned to leave in the car when the temperature dropped. The animals would have died had they been left in the car.

As a pet owner, I am also aware that animals can carry fleas which get into carpets, that sometimes they have accidents, and that they can chew(esp. puppies) or claw furniture. If one sprays a room for fleas, there is an added chemical which can cause a person to get sick. Case in point, I stayed at a hotel years ago with my young son who was learning to crawl. The room had been sprayed. He was so close to the chemicals that it gave him his one and only asthma attack and I had to rush him to the hospital.

If there appears to be a large demand for pet accomodations, perhaps a certain number of rooms can be reserved-like smoking and non-smoking. Perhaps the pet owners have to agree to pay for spraying the room afterwards, agree to pay for damages and for carpet cleaning in necessary. Or perhaps a pet charge could be added which would pay for any damages that occur over time.

Hope the decision for you all is an easy one.

Laura Bobbera

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Billyboy03ifish@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 8:22 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

My recommendation concerning this possible regulation change would be to designate certain cabins only as 'pet friendly'. Too many people, including myself, have allergies to animal hair, which could be irritated by staying in a cabin that recently had an animal in it. On the other hand, people with pets could stay at designated cabins only.
Although I don't stay at numerous State Park cabins throughout the year, I would not stay at any if this regulation is approved.
Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion on this matter.
William Graham
P.O. Box 1069
Inwood, WV 25428
304/229-2598

Tricia Sizemore

From: Owens, Harold L - MSHA [Owens.Harold@DOL.GOV]

Sent: Tuesday, July 05, 2005 1:11 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think that if pets are allowed to stay in cabins or rooms, some additional charge should be made to pay for the extra work to clean the cabins/rooms of odor, fleas, damage, etc. This charge should be levied on the person who brings the pet. Perhaps some specific cabins and rooms should be designated for pet owners, just like smoking and non-smoking rooms.

Tricia Sizemore

From: BnKSprouse@wmconnect.com

Sent: Monday, July 04, 2005 11:22 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Although I am a pet owner and would love to take my dogs along while we are camping, I understand the reasons they are not allowed. I have small children and dont want to have to worry about them being attacked by a seemingly "harmless" pet.

Thanks,

Karalena Sprouse

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sheila Bennett [osj02837@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 7:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

This might be a good thing, as long as you have designated "pet rooms" like the "smoker's rooms".

Sheila Kay Bennett



Tricia Sizemore

From: Ralph Cole [hill37_65@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 28, 2005 2:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comments about Pets

It is my opinion that pets should be allowed in State Park Cabins, but ONLY during inclement weather that puts the pet (s) in immanent danger.

Should the owner (s) want to keep their pet (s) in the cabins, charge a nominal fee to help defray any repair expenses, i.e.; at an older child rate or half of this.

The only animal that should be allowed in State Park Cabins is the Seeing Eye Dog with no fees applied.

Sincerely,

Ralph L. Cole
PO Box 722
Jane Lew, WV
26378-0722

Ph: (304) 884-8222

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Tricia Sizemore

From: McGraw, Dorothy [mcgraw@marshall.edu]

Sent: Saturday, June 25, 2005 9:16 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Our family has enjoyed stays in both state park cabins and lodges over the years. We were delighted when the no-smoking facilities became available. If you go with the "pets allowed" ruling we hope that some facilities will remain pet free for individuals who suffer from allergies and asthma. Cabins would be better suited for pets than the lodge rooms. Would the lawn area be kept clean, also? Would dogs possibly chase wildlife? I have found that persons with large dogs seem to let them roam freely early in the morning so I would hope the leash law would be enforced. Two dog bites in our family makes us overly cautious. I am sure you will make a wise decision.
Sincerely,
Dot McGraw

Tricia Sizemore

From: Harris, Dale W [dale.w.harris@mci.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 2:07 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I believe simple rules can be put in place that will address concerns on both sides of the "for/against" pets in hotel rooms. For example, pets should be kept in an amble sized kennel when left in the room for short periods of time. Pet owners should have to sign a waiver that if they cannot not control any noises by the pets they will be asked to leave. Maybe include pet size limits to small dogs and cats. Perhaps have surcharge for pets. The airline industry allows small dogs and cats fly in the passenger cabin for a fee.

I will be traveling through West Virginia the last week in June and plan to stop at some of it beautiful parks but I do not plan to stay overnight because I will be traveling with a pet.

Thanks,
Dale Harris

Tricia Sizemore

From: cdlbob@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 1:22 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

My family has had pets as long as I can remember and I'm 69. I am well aware that there are some people that are allergic to animals for what ever reason, or just do not like being around them.

I have never to my knowledge taken pets where they were not wanted, and I don't think that it would be a good idea to allow pets in cabins or rooms unless there were certain cabins or rooms designated specifically for pet lovers or those that don't care one way or another.

I don't think it would be fair to people that were allergic or just don't like animals to be placed in a room or cabin that has had pets staying in them for how ever long.

I always made arrangements to have someone look after my pets when I was away.

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football
http://football.fantasysports.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Meehan, Greg [GMeehan@Woodmark.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2005 7:13 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I feel this is a good idea but should include some "code of conduct" for animals and owners. Animals should be leased, should not be left unattended in cabins unless crated, owners should be required to pick up and dispose on fecal matter. Things like this are second nature to responsible pet owners and would maintain the natural state of the park and be respectful of non "pet people." Perhaps the prudent course of action would be to only allow pets during the off seasons i.e. not in the Memorial Day to Labor Day window when I'm sure many more visitors frequent the parks.

Thanks for allowing me to express my opinions.

Respectfully Submitted,
Greg Meehan
63 Lewill Lane
Bunker Hill, WV 25413

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Tricia Sizemore

From: dave channell [davejudy4@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2005 11:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I stay at wv state parks at times and people that bring dogs some let them bark until you cant stand it .So if you are going to let them in the cabins make them keep them quiet.

Yahoo! Sports
Rekindle the Rivalries. Sign up for Fantasy Football

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dubites [dubitest@citynet.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 9:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: comments

Hello, In response to your question allow pets in State Parks Cabins. A dog scooper a must and a leach a must. Penalty must be inforced and that raises another problem. Thank you for all your great works Rosemarie Dubites of Ripley, WV.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Amy K Snodgrass [amys20@juno.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 11:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment About Pets

We have two dogs and enjoy taking them with us on camping trips in WV state parks. Our opinion is that Dogs/cats should be allowed in the cabins & cabin areas with a pet deposit required. If the pet damages the cabin or leaves a mess, then the State should take the cost or repairs/cleaning out of the pet deposit.

Regarding lodge rooms - I don't think it is a good idea to allow pets in the lodge rooms. The State park lodge rooms are too nice to risk having them damaged by pets.

Amy K. Snodgrass

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cricket Skeen [cricket4u@charter.net]

Sent: Saturday, June 18, 2005 11:05 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: "Public Comment about Pets"

This e-mail is in reference to pets in park cabins and lodge rooms. Pets could be allowed in cabins so specified and not at random in all cabins and never in lodge rooms. People have allergies, etc. and if all facilities are open then you are open to lawsuits. So, no pets allowed in lodge rooms ever, and only certain cabins set aside for rent to pet owners.

Cricket Skeen, Kanwaha Trail Club Member
June 18, 2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: ScraggD24@aol.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2005 1:45 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: public comment about pets

No I don't like pets in the house or cabins and I probably wouldn't stay in one that had pets in it before. But to please everyone make some cabins for pets and some non-pets, like smoking cabins and non-smoking.

David & Sheryl Scragg

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brenkay912@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I have no problem with guests having pets in cabins and rooms.
HOWEVER, there should be certain, designated cabins/rooms for pets, and kept separate for those guests who have pets. There should still be cabins/rooms that do NOT have pets.

Why? Because there are those of us who are allergic. Last year my fiance' and I stayed in a hotel room nearby and we had to leave two hours after we arrived because I had trouble breathing, etc. We found out from the hotel staff that someone had a cat in the room, and they weren't supposed to.

Guests should be informed of these things due to allergies.
thanks!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jarhdandrn@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 9:14 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Hello
As much as I love my animals, I still think it is a good idea for the NO PET policy in cabins **unless** you designate certain cabins as pet accessible thereby alerting all renters to the possibility of pet dander etc. Many of your guests may have allergies or doggy/kitty may have accidents. I would be very happy with this arrangement which would allow me to choose to stay in pet accessible cabin or not. Another idea would be to require a pet deposit for the designated cabins/rooms.
Thank you for allowing me to comment.
Angela and James Wood
Winfield, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: RDrum10203@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 2:18 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

Since most dogs that I have had mark their territory, this could present a problem for non-pet owners. I can anticipate that the state might burdened with cleaning expenses.

If pets are allowed, they should only be permitted in select rooms and cabins, similar to a motel offering non-smoking rooms.

Keep in mind that all pet owners are not responsible "parents".

Richard Drummond
Clarksburg, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ginny Gallaher [ginny103@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 3:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

I can understand the necessity of having a seeing eye dog in a room or cabin. I can even go along with a dog or cat in some of the cabins. However, I have children and grand children who are allergic to dogs and highly allergic to cats and I would not want them to be a guest in a cabin or room after pets have been in there. It's like smoking or non-smoking - limit the pets to a few cabins and rooms - perhaps a pet friendly wing of a lodge with easy access to the outdoors which is not through the lobby? Thanks for listening!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kimble, Beth [BKimble@hcawv.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 16, 2005 11:39 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in state park lodges and cabins - NL

Yes, I would like to see the availability of pets in cabins but not lodge rooms.

Our family obtained a dog (Shih Tzu) last May and in August, we were unable to take her with us to Pipestem. However, there could be some exceptions. I would not like to see a big, barking dog but a small dog would seem to be acceptable. I know that some hotels will list small lap dogs acceptable.

Thank You,
Beth Kimble

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sandy Riffle [sandy.riffle@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 3:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Public Comment about Pets

I do not believe that pets should be allowed in state park cabins and lodge rooms.

There are many people who are allergic to cats and dogs. If someone who has these allergies stay in the same room or cabin after someone has stayed there with pets it can trigger their allergies/asthma and make them miserable.

If a certain number of cabins or lodge rooms were to be designated as "PET ROOMS" similiar to the "SMOKING" or "NON-SMOKING" rooms I wouldn't see a problem with it. At least that way people would be able to make the choice of whether they wanted to stay in a room that a pet had previously been allowed to stay in.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Daniel J. Todd [danieltodd@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 15, 2005 2:54 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would accept dogs (not cats) in Cabins only with a $15-20 per night pet deposit or charge. I would not support dog or cats in lodge rooms period.

Thanks,

Daniel Todd - Park user
Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Judy Miller [jmiller@mgallc.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2005 10:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think dogs should be allowed in the park as long as they are kept on leashes out side of the cabin or lodge.

Thanks for listening to my thoughts.

Judy

Judy Miller
MG&A
experience • results • value

617.734.2790 office
617.734.9247 fax
jmiller@mgallc.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rita Powell [senorita1960@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2005 3:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I stay in cabins and lodges year 'round ! AND, I have a dog. I am a very good pet owner, and my dog is on "Advantage" so he **can not** get fleas. **BUT**, MOST pet owners are not this caring. I have always made arrangements for my pet when I take long weekends and visit parks. (I just got back from 3 nights at Pipestem)

I am allergic to fleas... I CAN NOT be around them. I have hashed this situation out over and over again, since I do travel a lot. I think I have a solution. I would **NEVER allow pets in lodges.** They are carpeted, and, that means flea and dirt/mud problems (from dirty paws on rainy days etc...). Cabins on the other hand are NOT carpeted. I would designate a certain number of cabins at each state park (not all cabins) to allow pets, I would collect a damage deposit at check-in, and, the cabin would have to be inspected before the persons leave. Not a big deal... could be done in 10 minutes... and, if you are only allowing pets in, say, 10 cabins at each park, a 10 minute check would be nothing. I can tell you from experience that you will have LOTS of hairy bedspreads and sheets, it will take extra cleaning. Personally, I would not rent a cabin that allowed pets, I just do not trust many pet owners. I have seen many people (I own rental property) lets their pets out to 'do their business' two or three times a day, and not have sense enough to use a 'poop bag' to pick up the 'present'.

Thanks for allowing my input !

Rita Powell
2249 16Th. St.
Parkersburg, WV 26101
senorita1960@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marsha Eichhorn [nikki1988@verizon.net]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2005 7:05 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Hi,
I was checking out your site to get some info on Berkeley Springs when I saw this about the pets. I usually do not respond to these but thought I would this time. I am an animal lover but....I feel if pets are allowed they should be in one section or building to their selves. The Hotel we stayed at this weekend allowed pets. The problem was, we did not have a pet and was wakened several times by barking, we stayed in the room beside them. Our room even though it was very clean must have had a cat that stayed in it before. My sister has asthma and is very allergic to cats even if they have been in the room a week before she will still have an attack. I guess I just feel that if you plan on taking in pets then you should offer a place for people that do not want to stay with the animals.

Tricia Sizemore

From: dennis kordyak [dkordyak@frontiernet.net]

Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:58 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am opposed to having animal in all rooms. It should be limited to specific rooms/cabins. Those of us with allergies will rent the rooms that do not have pets.
Also, I would limit the number of pets to one and the type of dog should be limited. e.g. In San Francisco, another death occurred when a pit bull attacked a 12 year old family member. The park service would be liable for any attacks since it would be allowing pets.
Parks need to be safe.

Dennis Kordyak
Charles Town, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kathy Kirkpatrick [ksk@cablespeed.com]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 9:10 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I think pets should be allowed with weight restrictions and security deposits.

Kathy Kirkpatrick
Romney, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: The McIntires [MacOfEllis@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, June 06, 2005 7:05 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

Sure, let folks bring their pets, but you should charge a fee, per night, similar to that of a boarding fee. Then that would encourage them to make other arrangements. Those folks who simply can't be without their pets are out no more money than they would otherwise.

My pet does not go on vacation with us.

Stephen McIntire
525 Ellis Ave
Parkersburg, WV 26101

Tricia Sizemore

From: RookieWyant@cs.com
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 8:40 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

With in reason I would have not objections to small pets being permitted. I would put a restriction that all waste from the pet would be cleaned up by the owner or financial fine be imposed. This would lift the restrictions on many private sector in travel. I Thank You.

Tricia Sizemore

From: M. Koontz [grandmamargie@charter.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 05, 2005 8:37 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I am a person with allergies. I think it would be OK to designate 25% of facilities to allow pets, but it would be necessary to indicate to the public which rooms, cabins etc. are allowed to have animals with a sign on the front doors, similar to the "smoking/non-smoking" signs. I would never rent a facility that allows either pets or smoking. We have rented various rooms, cabins in the past, and have just moved back to West Virginia.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my opinion.

Marjorie C. Koontz
Elizabeth, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brenda Isaac [bkpi04@adelphia.net]
Sent: Saturday, June 04, 2005 9:59 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

If pets are allowed, then...

Pet size should be limited...e.g. under 30 pounds.

Owners should provide proof of vaccinations/health.

Pets should remain on a leash at all times.

Pets should be clean upon check-in. That means that would not have offensive odors, covered with mud, or have matted obviously unclean fur.

Owners should be responsible for any damage caused included infestations.

Owners should be responsible for cleanup (indoor/outdoor) after pets.

I am a pet owner and would want all of this in force before placing my pet in a situation where his health could be compromised.

Brenda Isaac
Huntington

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:43 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in park cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Susan Linden [mailto:billandsusanlinden@charter.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 3:37 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in park cabins

To: John R. Pope
From: Susan W. Linden

Mr. Pope,

First I would like to thank you for asking for input from the citizens of W. Va. on this issue.

Under the right rules and regulations I think that opening a number of cabins to welcome pets is a great idea. As stated in the article in the Charleston Gazette the state is losing income from people who travel or vacation with their pets.

I myself have two horses, a Dalmatian, two ferrets and a guinea pig. I had a cat but sadly she passed away about three years ago. My Dalmatian stays in a local kennel when we travel but the ferrets and the guinea pig travel with us wherever we go. We have an RV that we mostly travel with. But we would consider visiting park cabins if they were opened to pets.

Some of the rules should be:

1.) All pets should be confined to cages/crates when the owners are not present or at night when the owner cannot supervise what the pet is doing. Pets can do a lot of damage in a short time. Dogs that suffer from separation anxiety, as my dog used to, can be very destructive when left alone.

2.) All dog and cats should be on a leash when outside the cabins, unless each one has a fenced area. This will minimize the pets lost when they become scared and jump out of an owners arms or run away in fear. Feral animals kill wildlife.

3.) The owner would have to submit a photo of each pet and health papers from a vet stating that they are up to date on all shots as of the time of the visit and are free of disease. Some diseases are very communicable between pets.

4.) Animals that prove to disturb the peace would not be allowed. Such as dogs that bark non-stop even when the owners are present.

5.) Pets must have ID tags and rabies tag on their collar or harness at all times.

6.) Have a stiff fine for anyone that does not clean up after their pets.

Some suggestions:

1.) Have a log of any damage that a previous pet has done to a cabin and let the next visitors know that it is there and they will not be charged for that damage. Much like when you rent a car and they walk around and write down any previous damage.

2.) Please do not make all the "pet friendly" cabins the ones that also allow smoking. Many pet owners, like me, are very sensitive to smoke and will not stay in motel rooms or cabins when they have been smoked in. I would not want my pets being there either.

3.) Have a refundable damage deposit.

4.) Keep a state-wide log of any families with pets that have been destructive and ban those pets from further visits. Many pets and owners are good citizens and they should not be banned because of the actions of a few.

5.) A fenced "free run" play area would be great. Provide bags for cleaning up after pets when they are there. Restrict how many can be in the area at one time. Dog aggressive dogs must be in the area alone to keep them from hurting other dogs.

I know that others will have suggestions also. But these are mine.

Thank you for you time. I hope that the vote is to open some cabins to pet owning visitors.

Sincerely,

Susan W. Linden
Native and life-long resident of West Virginia

==========

"Be a life long or short, it's completeness depends on what it was lived for." - David Starr Jordan

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carrier, Jack [jcarrier@wvmi.org]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 2:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I support allowing overnight pets excluding notoriously unpredicatble breeds such as pit bulls and rotweilers. Last weekend I camped at Kanawha State Forest and the campground manager, more than once, felt the need to ask me to leash my 9 year old arthritic golden retriver while laying around our campground site. He proclaimed that the campground once had a rotweiler break loose from it's leash and attack another dog, as a result, my golden retreiver, he swore, was upredicatble and could snap at anytime and needed to be leashed. Should we require muzzles and ask campers to always carry tranquilizer guns? Come on Mr. Campground manager, let's get real.

Regards,

Jack Carrier
Charleston, WV
304-346-9864 ext. 2295

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Pets in Park

-----Original Message-----
From: My Junkmail [mailto:my_junkmail@cebridge.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 11:30 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Pets in Park

I would like to put in my two cents worth. My husband and I recently have been taking our HOUSEBROKEN pet on hikes. We cannot RENT a cabin due to this reason.

ALSO, my horse is a pet...should I rent a horse in a park I would like to take my dog...hard to do with her on a leash. Stable hands should either provide a crate for dogs that are not as well behaved as MY dog. (she is too.) We are being punished for having a dog. What kind of park service is this?

Thank you,

Bec

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing Pets In State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Hoover, Lisa [mailto:HooverL@rcbhsc.wvu.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:08 AM
To: 'parks@westvirginia.com'
Subject: Allowing Pets In State Parks

Please do not stop allowing pets in State Parks!!

Families who travel in RV's most likely take their pets with them on vacation and this would be a deterrence for them to come to West Virginia and stay in the State Parks. Also, people who are using the State Parks for hiking and to make their lifestyles healthier like to walk with their dogs. I don't understand why after years and years of allowing animals that you would consider this drastic measure.

Thank you!!

"The question is not, Can they reason? nor Can they talk? but, Can they suffer?" Jeremy Bentham Lisa Hoover West Virginia University Hospitals hooverl@rcbhsc.wvu.edu

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in the cabins

-----Original Message-----
From: Linda M. Williams [mailto:lindaw19@ntelos.net]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:50 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in the cabins

My vote is that you allow certain pets subject to certain rules, much as the hotels do:

1. Charge a fairly high fee for pets (non-refundable) as you'll have to pay for the extra clean-up and possible damage -- be sure to charge enough to cover the extra costs!

2. Perhaps limit the number of cabins where pets can stay -- much like smoking and non-smoking, there will be preferences for those who don't want to be in a cabin that allows pets.

3. You will need to have a limit on the types of pets allowed which will get to be an issue to address legally. (Will you allow snakes, for example!)

Thank you for allowing me to voice an opinion.

lmw

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: pets in cabin

-----Original Message-----
From: carmen silliman [mailto:wvcsilliman@hardynet.com]
Sent: Friday, June 03, 2005 8:02 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: pets in cabin

Dear Sir,

I have a small, older dog that travels with us 1. because he is so much a part of the family and attached to the family and is not used to being sent to a kennel or having someone come in and care for him more than 1 night. 2. the cost of a kennel for a week is $20-25 a day and that really adds cost to a vacation.
I do think the state would have to add some regulations that pet owners must abide by, for damage, messing up the property and people with allergys would have to know that a pet had been in the cabin they used. Animals would have to be on a leash and kept quiet.
This is worth a try and I would like to see it happen but many plans/considerations need to go into this change. I say try it.
Carmen Silliman
Moorefield-Hardy County
Home of Lost River State Park - the most beautiful one :-)

Yes, but with restrictions

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cass Shockley [cass@gearbay.com]

Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 11:07 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on pets in cabins at WV State Parks

I would like to see pets allowed in state park cabins, but dogs only.
More people are allergic to cats.
Also, you would have to designate a few cabins only to allow pets because of allergies.
I think you should also charge an additional pet fee on the original rate.

I **do not** think there should be a weight limit on the pets because I have seen some very gentle and nice Labs that weigh 60 or 70 pounds.

And that's all I have to say about that!

Thank You,
Cass Shockley
Public Citizen, Tax Payer, and Registered Voter

Patty Taylor

From: TERRY BELL [redcloak@verizon.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 8:50 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Allow Dogs at Park Cabins

I read the article in the Beckley Newspapers about allowing pets at State Parks. I think it's a great idea as long as you allow Golden Retrievers and Labradors. These breeds are the most people friendly and docile dogs around. I have been to Hotels all up and down the East coast with my Golden Retriever. I have seen time and again the dogs that make noise and snap at people are those tiny dogs I call "Yappers". Yorky's, toy poodles, etc are the ones that bark and lurch at people. If you have a dog policy that allows Yorkys but disallows retrievers then you're wasting your time. Exclude specific breeds but do not make policy based solely on size. Pit Bulls and Wolf crosses are two breeds that should be considered for exclusion. Not because of the dogs themselves but because of some of the unscrupulous owners of these animals. The owners are the reason these dogs have received a bad wrap. Thanks for listening to my comments and I look forward to staying at some of the State Parks in WV; with my Golden Retriver.

Terry Bell
12 Terry St
Mullens, WV 25882

Patty Taylor

From: Central [central@centralprintingwv.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 10:00 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Attn: Mr. Pope

I am writing in regard to the article in the Register-Herald about possibly changing the No-Pet rule in state parks. I am a dog owner, but I can appreciate both sides of the argument. I have 2 jack russell terriers and they travel everywhere with me - my husband and I have made decisions not to go places based on our pets not being allowed. However, I do see many people that have pets that they travel with and they do not have control of their pets or do not pick up after their pets make a mess.

I do think the majority of pet owners that travel with their pets take extra care to make sure their pets are not a bother to others, especially those who are not pet lovers.

My suggestion: pay a small for for your pets when going to a state park or even issuing some sort of pass - I believe the pet owners who handle their pets properly in public places would take the time to go through such measures and the ones who don't wouldn't bother and probably would not take their pets to a state park for that reason.

Just a suggestion
Thank you for your time
Cindy Fazio
Beckley, West Virginia

Patty Taylor

From: Grady M. Bowyer [gradybowyer@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 02, 2005 7:45 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Animals @ State Parks

I believe animals at the cabins would be great, but not at the lodges. Dogs should be kept on leases at all times, not free to roam the woods.

Grady M. Bowyer
1939 Wilson Avenue
St. Albans, WV 25177
304-727-8946

Tricia Sizemore

From: W D Gearhart [wgear17437@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 6:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Re: Alcohol in State Parks

Our family has had our family reunion at Cacapon State Park every year for 40 plus years. Six generations have enjoyed the lovely, old park. We have always had those that brought beer in coolers. We have never had anyone get intoxicated or act irresponsibly.

We share good times, good food and good music. It would be a shame if the guys would not be allowed to kick back and drink a beer on a hot August afternoon while throwing horseshoes.

In closing, I would like to take the opportunity to thank those that have maintained and protected the park. Each year the enhancements added to the park have made it even more wonderful while preserving the true beauty of nature. I have many fond childhood memories rooted there and it has been such a blessing to watch my children, and now my grandchildren, create their own "Capon" adventures.

Wanda Gearhart
Keckley Family Reunion
3rd Sunday of August
CCC Pavilion

Tricia Sizemore

From: Birthday [cherylskiles@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:48 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

As long as strict guidelines are enforced as to the areas that alcohol can be consumed and the group understands that they are responsible for there actions I have no problem with this ruling. I would like to see this rule extended to Kanawha State Forest too.

T.E. Skiles
5611 Kanawha Ave SE
Charleston WV 25304
E-Mail foghat58@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ellen Roberts [E-A-Roberts@worldnet.att.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: beer

I think the wvdnr should allow beer at picnics and reunions,and campers in the state parks, since they probably do not allow smoking!

Charles L. Roberts
560 Valley Mills Rd.
Parkersburg, W.V. 26104

Tricia Sizemore

From: ROBERT ALLEN [allenz10023@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am in favor of approval. Even though I never bring alcohol onto a state park, I believe others do. This could be a benefit if proper monitored and enforced. Thanks.

R. Allen

Do You Yahoo!?
Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rcandjm@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 6:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: (no subject)

I am for the Director of National Resources making that decision.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Thomas William Blake [tblake@stratuswave.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:52 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I think alcoholic beverages should be allowed, not only to private parties, but, to the general public.
Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:12 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alochol issue at WV State Ploarks

-----Original Message-----
From: Khan Kesselman [mailto:kkesselman@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 6:25 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Alochol issue at WV State Ploarks

I couldn't find the place to voice my opinion about allowing the consumption of alochol at WV state parks. If you can forwarad this for me I would appreciate it. I would suggest that all overnight guests staying at lodges, cabins, campgrounds, etc. be allowed to consume alochol in their premesis (not in the open). Also, organized picnics at pavilions, etc. should be allowed as long as it is kept civilized and liability falls on the party who reserves the shelter. Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Tom Maxwell [thomas.maxwell@chenford.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 8:03 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I think alcohol should be allowed. Tom Maxwell

Tricia Sizemore

From: William Wolverton [bpwolv@webtv.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 6:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

We think that under the guide lines stated,
that alcohol should be permited in our state parks. There are many funtions that could be held under these rules.

Mr.and Mrs. William Wolverton

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ted Davis [zen5zen@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I think alcohol should be permitted but limited to wine and beer.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Linda Lane [nutrilane@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 3:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in state parks

I think that alcohol at a campsite, or at a "shelter" event would be desirable. But not off the beaten track where litter would result nor in the immediate area where children are playing an organized sport.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Meighan, Terence G. [tim1@cdc.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: In favor of rule change
Importance: High

In favor of rule change to amend the existing rule to give the director the authority to provide written permission to groups who rent certain state park facilities to possess beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages for functions not open to the general public.

We rented Pricketts Fort for our wedding reception and were allowed to have alcohol at the reception.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brian W. Kelly [DJBrian@wjls.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 5:14 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alchol in parks

As a citizen and registered voter I would like to say that I am for the Alchol in parks. But may I add a sugestion that may help things? Require that an paid off duty officer be present at the events. They do this in Ohio and elsewhere. The cops charge 25hr. I think 20 of it goes to the officer. and they are in charge as far as security and making sure things go right. There is no town or county who would pass that oppurtunity up.

Brian Kelly

Tricia Sizemore

From: Robert Powell [robertwpowell@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 7:22 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Pets and/or alcohol in state parks

I am a pet owner, a very responsible pet owner, yet, I have seen MANY 'well to do' people who do not 'pick up' after their pets... meaning stool. Also, many who do not treat their pets for fleas. My wife is very allergic to fleas, and just cannot be around them. Our pet is on flea prevention year 'round, and it is not an issue. In a perfect world, people would be responsible for their pets, but, the truth is, most are not. Maybe set aside a few cabins (no lodge rooms at all) to allow pets, but, nothing more, in my opinion.

As far alcohol in parks, that is just asking for trouble. I do know that many already bring alcohol into parks, I have done it myself. We always camp with beer, although we do not get drunk, but, a few cold beers once or twice a year while camping is a pleasure for me. I have been 'seen' in parks with the beer... the park attendants just tell you "well, it's not a problem as long as no other campers complain, or you are being loud. Just keep it low and there will be no issue". I have also seen many drinking in parks... and I don't have a problem with it as long as they are being civil... but, here lies the problem. Many people are not responsible drinkers, and use filthy language, or start trouble (fights etc...). If someone rents a shelter or cabin for their private use, I think they should also be allowed to bring or include alcohol, but with close supervision by park employees. But, allowing campers to have booze, I would say 'no way'. One otehr issue I see with it... park employees would have no way to find out if the persons drinking were underage or not, and could be held liable if something were to 'happen' due to underage teens drinking.

Robert Powell

July 26,05

From: Mr. & Mrs. G. Marshall Fowler
RT. 1 Box 191-B
Peterstown, WV. 24963

To: Mr. John Pope, Chiek of D.N.R.

Subject: Alcohol at some park events annd allowing pets in cabins.

We are strongly against bothproposals. You may be opening Pandora's box.First you may be in a law suit,in the society of today,if you premit one group but not another, there are those who would cry discrimination and because receive some money from the Federal Government they will probably get involved.

For special events,there are alwawys someone who will abuse those privileges and if not staying overnight at the park,you will have a drunk driving on the road.Most often where alcohol is a part of a celebration or party trouble develops.

About pets in state park cabins, it doesn't make any difference how well you clean,there is always some hair or animal odor left,and many people are allergic to dog or cat hair.The only course would be to set aside a cabin or two for pet only,than the problem would be you can't keep them occupied all the time.. The only other course would be that you would have to notify clients that pets have occupied that cabin.

P.S. I know it doesn't hold any weight,but I have talked to nine familys and all are against alcohol on state park property, and against pets in state park cabins.

thanks for reading this.

G. Marshall Fowler
Nellie Fowler

Tricia Sizemore

From: erosenbe [erosenbe@ma.rr.com]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:04 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

My wife and I are not in favor of having pets and alcohol in WV state parks. We could give many reasons, but we will give just a few. We like to visit the state parks rather than hotels in the city and beaches. We visit those that are nearby such as Canaan Valley and Tygart State regularly. We take all of our visiting friends to those parks and now we have added the Stone Wall Jackson Park. We can't imagine alcohol being allowed in the parks because that is one of the reasons that we go there, and we are sure that many families feels the same. Drinking to excess usually follows anywhere alcohol is allowed.

As far as pets are concerned, we have a pet poodle, and we would love to take him with us but we never would take him to a park where other pets had been. It is not hard to imagine people taking dirty pets as well as pets with fleas and illnesses to the parks. Leaving feces around the outside area of the park would be certain. We think we should keep the parks clean of such contamination. Of course, it goes without saying how complicated the legal situation would be if a dog bites someone on state property.

We hope you will take the opinions of regular native visitors to the parks when you consider making such drastic changes. We would like to do more to influence the decisions than just write an e-mail. Would it help for us to write our legislators?

Edward J Rosenberger

1441 William Road

Fairmont,WV 26554

e-mail erosenbe@ma.rr.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Billie Shearer on behalf of Wildlife Resouces General Mailbox
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Allowing alcohol and dogs in the state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Lenora Kenwolf [mailto:lkenwolf@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:23 AM
To: Wildlife Resouces General Mailbox
Subject: Allowing alcohol and dogs in the state parks

I am a WV resident and a frequent visitor to the state parks. I absolutely detest the idea of bringing dogs and alcohol into the parks. Dogs are already allowed at Blackwater Falls State Park where I have had to dodge dog manure just to get to the gift store. Dogs scare away the wildlife which is one of the main reasons we go to the parks. My husband and I have a two year old daughter. We don't want to have to protect her against dogs or force her to stay in her stroller because of dog manure all over the place. I have to board my cat when I go on vacation others should do the same.

Besides, dogs leave a nasty smell behind when they leave. I don't want to rent a cabin or a hotel room that smells of dog. Many people are allergic to dogs. This would make the rooms untenable for them. When the rule says pets, does that also include snakes and lizards? Somehow I think the lodge staff would be quite displeased to find someones pet boa constrictor relaxing on the television. There are smoking and non smoking rooms now. In the future will there be dog and non-dog rooms for people with allergies or who just don't like the smell of dog?

Most commerical hotels and motels do not allow pets. Neither should the state park.

In addition, I feel that alcohol does not lend itself to a family atmosphere. My husband and I do not drink. We do not want our little daughter exposed to people who have been drinking. Although, the rules may start out strict, how long before people take advantage and families cannot enjoy a day at the park without dealing with drunks?

Dogs and drunks have one thing in common - destruction of property. How much money is the DNR willing to shell out to repair damage done by both? How many extra people are going to need to be hired to walk the lawns scooping the poop and picking up beer cans? Because a lawn filled with either is unsightly and unpleasant. What about the damage done to property or life when someone drinking at the state park doesn't realize they have had too much to drink and hits something, or someone? How about the damage to the cabins and lodge when someone's dog chews into the walls, or into someone's leg?

I know children do not have money to spend in the gift shops and the lodges, but should their needs be ignored to please others? Every time I go to the parks, I see as many children as adults. For many West Virginia children, their only opportunity for a vacation is a day trip to one of the state parks. Why put in place rules that would drive families away? Aren't the parks supposed to be for everyone not just wealthy out of state visitors?

Tricia Sizemore

From: Leon D Hosey [lchosey@bright.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:00 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am opposed to dogs in park facilities - There are a great number of people allergic to animals and also because cabins are in wooded,damp areas it would be extremely difficult to remove odors. Only seeing-eye dogs or those needed for similar problems should be permitted in the parks. When you begin allowing dogs in the park you involve a whole new set of regulations regarding maintenance and restraint of dogs.

Regarding alcoholic beverages, I am also opposed to permitting use in park facilites.

I spend a lot of time vacationing in WV parks in part because we don't have to deal with these problems.

Leon D Hosey
560 Franklin Dr
Doylestown, OH 44230

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wilson, Marvin [Marvin.Wilson@hq.doe.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

My opinion on Alcohol in the State Parks is negative.

If it is allowed, it may bring problems, as some cannot hold their alcohol well and will cause unnecessary damage which will add unnecessary cost to the park budget.

Pets also should not be allowed in the cabins and lodges as many have allergy problems with animals.

It is hard to clean up after animals and some people will have problems.

I love the state parks. My wife and I try to spend a few days in the spring and fall at one of the parks

Thanks for listening.

Marvin Wilson

Procurement Analyst

RS Information Systems

Department of Energy

Phone 301-903-1100

Fax 301-903-2231

E-Mail Marvin.Wilson@hq.doe.gov

John Pope, chief of Parks & Rec.
DNR Bldg 3, Room 714
State Capitol Complex
Charleston WV 25305-0662

NO Booze in our parks!

NO Pets in our parks!

The rules are fine just as they are. Our parks are one of the VERY few places left where we can still feel ~~safe~~ reasonably safe and there is some serenity. Why? Because the current rules keep the loud mouth drunks out. They keep

Tricia Sizemore

From: Karen/Bill Carpenter [fsc01098@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

My husband and I would like to voice our concern about allowing alcohol of any kind in a public, family-oriented, place and certainly not in a state park. What are you people thinking? Not only is drinking detrimental to health, but it is a major cause of fights and brawls. What about tourists driving in or about the parks under the influence where small children may also be walking, biking, or playing? Who would want to go and camp out or spend time with small children in a bar? What kind of statement of moral values are we making, and what type of example are we setting for our youth? We definitely would NOT want to see alcohol of any kind allowed within the perimeter of a state park. Let people go to the bars if they want to drink. Most state parks are located near a town or city. You would be taking business away from these small establishments.

Allowing pets in the rental cabins and lodges can create problems. Although most pet owners are very responsible about keeping their pet clean and flea/tick free, there is always a chance that the pet could leave fleas and other undesirable things in the room. Some pets do alot of damage if left alone. They can easily soil the carpets. They may bark unnecessarily thus annoying other guests. Certain breeds of dogs and a few from all breeds could pose a danger to other occupants should they have a surprise encounter. We are animal lovers but since the tax payers money was used to build these cabins and lodges, not to mention salaries and other expenses related to these, we feel it is better to not allow pets.

Our names are John and Karen Carpenter. You have our email address on this message. Thanks, in advance. We are sure you will do the right thing.

Rt. 5, Box 282
Bfd, WV 24701

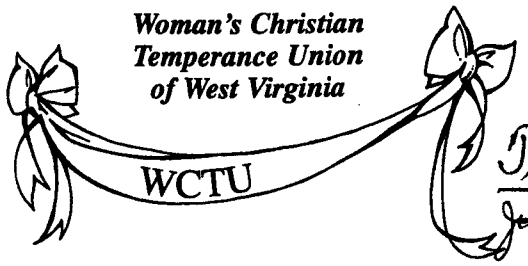
John Pope, Jr.
DNR
Bldg. 3 7th
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Mr. Pope,

Please do not allow alcohol beverages in State Parks.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Naomi Bowman



Tues.
July 26, 2005

Greetings,

Alcohol should not be allowed for any reason in our State Parks!! D.N.R. should know that alcohol is not a natural resource but a man-made brew which has caused many highway deaths and took food from poor families where alcohol is bought and drank.

What a wonderful nation the United States could be if alcohol Drinks were eliminated.

A total abstainer
and
Member of "Woman's
Christian Temperance Union",
Mrs Kathleen Sutton

Mr. Pope,

In the Charleston Daily Mail; we were asked as Citizens of this State, to send our comments on Alcohol use in our State Parks.

For the Safety of our kids + Grandkids; "Please", no Alcohol in our Parks.

Thank you

Denny Smith

Carroll Jones
P.O. Box 132
Eleanor, WV 25070

July 26, 2005

DNR
West Virginia Parks
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E.
Building #3, Room 714
Charleston, WV 25305

ATTENTION: Trish Sizemore

Dear Ms. Sizemore:

I am writing concerning a news clip given on a local TV station. The news clip stated that consideration is being given concerning permiting alcohol in State Parks. I was disappointed, to say the least, to hear that you are wanting to permit alcohol in our parks.

I can foresee major problems stemming from such an endeavor. Since our parks are most frequently used by families with children, they would be subjected to all kinds of unsavory behaviour and talk as well as some violence by those who imbibe too much alcohol.

Since alcohol along with drugs are the main reasons for so much crime in our society I am totally against the idea and will wait to hear of your final decision.

Sincerely,

Rev. Carroll Jones

Rev. Carroll Jones

CJ:j

Francis A Anderson
HC 81 Box 42
Ballard, WV
24918

John Pope
Building 3, Room 714
State Capital Complex
Charleston, WV 25305-0662

Dear Mr. Pope,

Regarding the recent article on alcohol in W.V. parks, I wish to express my heartfelt opinion.

I am totally against the use of alcohol in public places where children are present. I believe this would cause alot of problems that our beautifull family get-away places do not need. Please keep our parks alcohol free.

Sincerely,
Francis Anderson

7-26-05

To Tony Murphy, DNR
Spokesperson:

Just a quick response to an article in our newspaper and on 11 o'clock news Monday. We believe the "no alcohol policy" for state parks and forests should remain as enacted in 1985. Thank you for asking.

Sincerely,

Mason A. Bennett
Martha Jean Bennett

MASON A. BENNETT 1 YR
MARTHA JEAN BENNETT
R.R. 6, BOX 36
CLARKSBURG, WV 26301-9559
304-623-2594

Dear Mr. Pope:

We are against alcohol in state parks. We enjoy visiting the different parks around the State. We do not want to worry about somebody being drunk and driving while we are walking or riding our bikes. I hope you reconsider this and keep the parks family-oriented. Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

Steven & Lori Browning

PO Box 115
Coal City WV 25823

Joy Sargent
Rt. 3 Box 668
Bluefield WV 24701
7-25-05

Mr. Pope,

Please do not allow alcohol consumption in our State Parks. We have to many problems Caused from persons using alcohol.

My mother was killed by a drunk driver while walking down the street to visit her granddaughter. 4 yeqrs earlier my 8½ year old brother was rein over & killed by a driver who had been out drinking into the wee hours before getting behind the wheel of the bus.

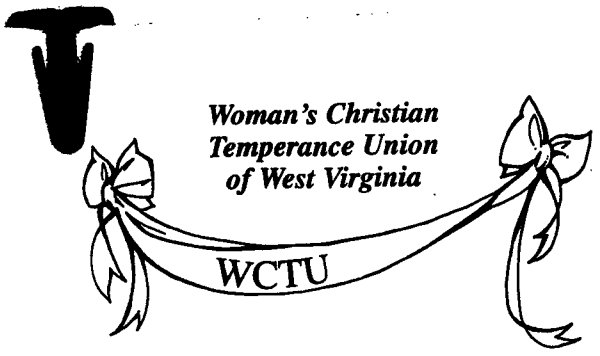
People using alcohol in our State Parks encounter others when they leave the Parks Think about it. Just don't do it.

Thank You,
Joy Sargent

Dear Sirs.

I Just Read An Article in The Beckley newspaper That -iated That The DNR is considering opening some of our Parks to Alcoholic Beverages. I would Never Do That. Any Alcohol in Public Places is a Problem Especially where Family gatherings take Place. People who Drink in Parks, Drive in Parks, Kids Play in Parks. This is very Disturbing to Know That That The Reason For The Alcohol consideration is Revenue. Who is going To make The Parks safe For us if No Police Are Around. Please Re consider Before Allowing This to Happen, our church group has Picnics in The Parks, what if, Next To our group, a celebrating group is Drinking. Drinking should Not take Place in Public outdoors Around people who Do Not want to be subject to its consequences.

Larry w Brown
670 Drews Creek
Naoma WV
25-140
(304) 854-1657



7/26/05

Dear Sir,

Please accept these leaflets about alcohol. In my 82 years of life I have never seen any good, Only evil effects of what alcohol does. In Psalm 90:12 we find a prayer of Moses who said, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom." Why make an evil worse, than it is already? Total abstinence, the right way.

Thanks.

Josephine Cottrill

I am a Christian and a member of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for 55 years.



75

BIBLE REFERENCES ON DRINKING

Should Christians really totally abstain from alcoholic drinks? Or does God tell us we can drink moderately?

In the 1800's and early 1900's the church in America took a bold stand for total abstinence. People read research about the word "wine;" Bible studies showed the truth about alcohol. The result was prohibition with its great benefits. But the prohibition amendment was repealed, and the church began to weaken its conviction against alcohol. Today some pastors say, "What's wrong with a six-pack? Why get hung up on a little wine at a wedding?"

The Bible is the same "yesterday, today, and forever." What godly Bible teachers said in the past is true today. Dr. Robert Teachout, a Semitic scholar who, in 1979, wrote his doctorate on *The Use of Wine in the Old Testament*, stated, "Alcohol is never approved by God in any amount for the obedient Christian."

Dr. Samuele Bacchiocchi, author of *Wine in the Bible*, 1989, says "Drinking alcohol is . . . a moral issue. It is . . . a transgression of God's law."

FACTS TO KNOW

1. The Bible does teach total abstinence from alcohol. Both the main Hebrew word for wine and the Greek word for wine can mean either fermented grape juice or intoxicating wine. The English word wine originally had two meanings also - unfermented juice or alcoholic drink.

2. In the Bible, verses to show God approves of wine are speaking about unfermented juice. Verses that expose the evils of wine are speaking about intoxicating wine.

3. The Bible says alcoholic drink is evil. It is not just the amount one drinks that makes drinking a sin. God condemns the drink itself. "Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging . . . it deceives you." Proverbs 20:1

4. God does not lead us into evil; He delivers us from it. He does not teach us to practice evil in moderation. Jesus did not make, use, approve, commend, or tell us to use intoxicating wine.

5. God made man to have fellowship with Him. Alcohol goes directly to the brain, the communication center of the body. It interferes with God's purpose for mankind.

BIBLE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS

1. Why is there confusion about wine in the Bible?

Psalm 104:15 says, *"And wine that maketh glad the heart of man . . ."* but Proverbs 20:1 says, *"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise."* God says wine is His good gift to us and He says it is evil. This seems confusing to us. But God is talking about two kinds of wine. One is fermented alcoholic drink; the other is grape juice.

2. How do we know the Bible teaches there are two kinds of wine?

Malachi 3:16 states, *"For I am the Lord, I change not."* God cannot call something evil and call the same thing good. The wine God says is a mocker, a deceiver, and the poison of serpents is fermented alcoholic wine. It is not the same as the unfermented wine or grape juice He says is a blessing. History shows us that the Hebrew *yayin* and the Greek *oinos* can mean either fermented wine or unfermented juice. The Bible teaches this clearly. I Samuel 25:36-37 tells about Nabal. He was very drunk on alcoholic *yayin*. Then, the Bible says in Isaiah 16:9-10, the treaders were treading out *yayin* in their presses. The *yayin* they were treading out had to be grape juice.

3. Does God approve of drinking alcoholic drink if we drink it in moderation?

Alcoholic drinks like beer, wine, and cocktails all have ethyl alcohol in them. The Bible talks about alcoholic wine because that was the problem drink in Israel. But God is against any drink that contains ethyl alcohol. He does not approve of moderate drinking of any ethyl alcohol. Proverbs 20:1 is very clear: *"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging."* God does not say that one drink or two drinks is a mocker. He does say that alcoholic drink <u>is a mocker</u>. Even the smallest amount is a mocker. That is the nature of alcohol in any amount.

15. What

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John R. Hope, Jr.
Chief, Parks & Recreation
Div. of Natural Resources
Bldg. 3 Room 714
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, W.V. 25305-0662

Tricia

HC-70, Box D-645
White Sulphur Springs,
WV 24986
July 25, 2005

John R. Pope, Jr., Chief
Parks and Recreations
Division of Natural Resources
Building 3, Room 714
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305-0662

Dear Mr. Pope:

I adamantly oppose using our state parks for parties where alcohol will be consumed. This is just giving the signal to all that it is okay to drink

and drive. We have enough alcohol related accidents in West Virginia and other states already. Don't tell me these people who drink at these functions in state parks won't be on the road driving. They will.

So, please do not advocate that it is okay to drink alcohol on state property.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Erma Jean McKinney

Erma Jean McKinney

Wild and Wonderful
West Virginia
State Parks & Forests

Date 7-25-05

THE ATTACHED PAPERS ARE REFERRED

To Trish

From Ken C

_____ Please note and file

_____ Please note and return to me

_____ Please note and see me about this _____

_____ Please answer, sending me copy of your letter

_____ Please prepare reply for my signature

_____ Please take charge of this

_____ To be signed

_____ Immediate action desired

~~For your approval~~ — Just a note — keep on file.

_____ For your information

_____ Your comments, please

_____ Please call telephone no. _____

Remarks:

Harold York of Parkersburg WV objects to the proposed alcohol rule change. Told him about ways to comment. Not sure he

Tricia Sizemore

From: elvarose@netscape.com
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 4:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: legislative rules - drinking

I am totally against alcoholic beverages in the state parks. We have been vacationing in the parks for 42 years, but, that may well cease if we have to deal with the results of allowing alcohol consumption on the premises.

Where there is alcohol, there are drunk drivers. Where there are drunk drivers people get hurt or killed.

If you allow drinking in the parks, let's drop the "Almost Heaven" motto and call it almost hell.

Hugh and Elva Anderson

1414 Third Street

Moundsville, WV 26041

Netscape. Just the Net You Need.

Tricia Sizemore

From: ndlnfl_1@netzero.net
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2005 10:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

Dear Sirs:

I do not beleive we need alcoholic beverages in any of our state parks. When groups of people have alcohol at their events it usually means a lot of noise and over indulgence. Many people come to our state parks with their children and I don't beleive they should be subjected to such behavior. We need to set a good example for our young people, we don't need alcohol to enjoy our state parks.

Sincerely,
Norman D. Leach

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: [Spam] WVDNR News: Parks Section Files Legislative Rule for Review

-----Original Message-----
From: chowells@larrymore.com [mailto:Chowells@larrymore.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 3:17 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Re: [Spam] WVDNR News: Parks Section Files Legislative Rule for Review

There are already too few venues available where there is no alcoholic beverages permitted. I vote for NO alcohol. Alcohol is the cause of so many disturbances and is an extreme health risk.

—— Original Message ——
From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Tuesday, July 19, 2005 2:58 PM
Subject: [Spam] WVDNR News: Parks Section Files Legislative Rule for Review

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

www.wvdnr.gov

Joe Manchin III, Governor

Frank Jezioro, Director

News Release: July 8, 2005

Hoy Murphy, Public Information Officer (304) 558-3380 hoymurphy@wvdnr.gov
Contact: **J. R. Pope, Chief, Parks and Recreation Section (304)558-2764** triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov

DNR Parks and Recreation Section Files Legislative Rules for Review

The Parks and Recreation Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is seeking public comments about a possible rule change to amend the existing rule to give the director the authority to provide written permission to groups who rent certain state park facilities to possess beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages for functions not open to the general public.

Anyone wishing to comment in favor or against this proposal should send their comments to John R. Pope Jr., Chief, Parks and Recreation, Division of Natural Resources, Building 3, Room 714, State Capitol Complex, Charleston , WV 25305-0662 or e mail comments to triciasizemore@wvdnr.gov. Comments will be received until July 29, 2005, 12:00 pm.

The availability of the proposed rules will be advertised in the State Register. After the public review and comment period closes, July 29, 2005 , appropriate changes will be made to the proposed rule. They will be re-filed by the DNR for action by the Legislative Rule Making Committee prior to the 2006 Session of the West Virginia Legislature.

DNR

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carroll, Steve, SW NAR/US [Steve.Carroll@CelaneseAcetate.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 7:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Comment

Dear Sir / Madam,

I would like to comment on the alcoholic beverages in public parks.

If you were to check coolers now you would probably find a large number of people already using alcohol.

If you allow some to use it you will probably have to hire more officers to keep up with complaints.

Talking from experience, alcohol only causes problems. Why have fun if you can't remember it?

Thanks for your time,

Steve Carroll

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barry Tilley [barry_tilley@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2005 8:16 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I Oppose

I would like to voice my opposition to the changing of the rule to allow alchol in our parks. I could go on a rant about it but I will not, just simply mark me as opposed.

Barry Tilley

Princeton, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ronald Frye [rfrye5176@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 9:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: COMMENT

I VERY MUCH DISAGREE FOR HAVING ALCOHOL IN THE PARKS AT ANY TIME.
RONALD & LINDA FRYE

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charlie [clk@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 11:07 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: ?

I do not drink. I do not care whether beer can be consumed in State Parks. However, it seems rather odd that beer can be legally sold in West Virginia but not legally consumed in State Parks.

I suppose that the reasoning is that families who wish to have good, clean, wholesome outings will not have to put up with a bunch of disgusting drunks who cannot control their behavior because of alcohol.

If the above is true, I am in favor of limiting or restricting the consumption of alcohol on or in state facilities altogether.

Tricia Sizemore

From: James & Betty White [b_jwhite@citynet.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 11:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

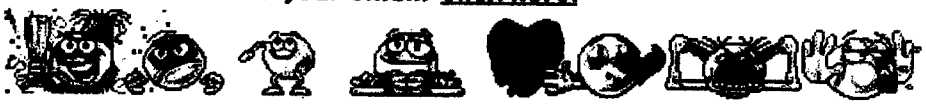
John Pope
Chief of Parks and Recreation

Mr Parks , I very much opposed to alcohol in State Parks. They are family oriented, and not for a bunch of drunks. I have seen first hand what alcohol does in State Parks. I know that it is not supposed to be brought in, but people does slip it in.Who wants there children around a drunk, in the Park. It is bad enough at home.. We have some of the best parks in the country, and why you want to ruin them. I think that to rank second in the nation is real good. It is just coming down to the dollar again. If we want to remain the best, we must not allow Alcohol in our parks. I love our parks, and I use them real often, but I will not put up with drunks. Thanks

Jmaes White
212 Ridge Ave.
Box 856
Coal City , Wv 25823

b_jwhite@citynet.net

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Jane Toney [janetoney@verizon.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 11:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: NO DRINKING

I am Very glad you can't drink in our Parks. I hope this never changes. If someone wants to drink they can go to a Bar.Parks are for Family Fun.

Thank You
Jane Toney

FREE Emoticons for your email! Click here!



Tricia Sizemore

From: mcooper [mcooper1029@charter.net]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 4:40 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in parks

I think that is a bad idea to allow alcohol in parks at anytime or any place. There is several families that goes camping or to the park with their small children. Children do NOT need to be exposed to other people drinking while trying to have family time. Nothing good comes from people drinking alcohol, they want to fight, cuss, or just cause a scene. Please take this into consideration. I know I wouldn't like to go to the parks with people drinking there.

mcooper

Tricia Sizemore

From: charles harler [charlesh6@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 9:36 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: beer in parks

NO!!!!! If you have to have beer,etc at your wedding, get married at Joe's Bar.

Yahoo! Mail
Stay connected, organized, and protected. Take the tour

Tricia Sizemore

From: Delores Vaughan [mvaughan@citynet.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 24, 2005 6:49 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: no drinking in parks.

Since 1985 we have enjoyed taking our children and grandchildren on outings to local parks without the worry of finding a party going on that included alcoholic beverages. Our families should not be subjected to this. If people want to have a party that includes this type of drink then let them have it in a private place, not a public place. What if the alcohol is abused and causes people to become loud or even drunk to the point of drinking and driving in the park area or on the highways. NO, NO, NO.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to express our feelings in the matter.
Delores Vaughan

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jeanne Moses [jmoses@chaptech.com]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:07 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: No to alcoholic beverages in the state parks and forests

I oppose allowing alcoholic beverages in our state parks/forests for any reason. We have been enjoying our state parks and forests with our families for years now. Allowing some to have alcoholic beverages would not only open up the door for others to do the same, but when alcohol flows, so do loud, obnoxious people.

I lived in Kanawha State Forest for 20 years while my father, the late Osbra Eye was the superintendent. Even though alcohol was prohibited at the forest, there were still many occasions where alcohol was present, causing wrecks, fights and disruption for picnickers, bikers, hikers and campers. Those people drinking will be driving out of our forests/parks. We need to think about the liability issue as you always find bikers/hikers on the roads.

Alcohol and solitude do not mix. Thank you.

Jeanne (Eye) Moses

Jeanne Moses
Office Mgr/Personnel Administrator
Chapman Technical Group
200 Sixth Avenue
St. Albans, WV 25177
Phone: (304) 727-5501
Fax: (304) 727-5580
Please give the gift of life.....donate blood today!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Linda Oates [MWOLSO@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:21 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcoholic Beverages at State Parks

Alcoholic Beverages should not be allowed at State Parks under any circumstances!!!!!!!!!!!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: mark smitherman [marksmitherman@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in WV State Parks?

I would like to express my opinion on this issue of having groups to be able to consume alcohol in our WV State Parks. I believe, and I'm sure you would agree, that the WV State Parks are truly the best tourist attraction this state has going for it, and to introduce alcohol consumption would be a threat to the purist FAMILY recreation opportunity this state has to offer.

WV State Parks and Forests allow families from not only our state but from states all over the eastern US to enjoy one the last family oriented activities that is left in our country. To allow the invasion of alcohol into this outdoor experience can only downgrade the privacy and enjoyment of one of the last wholesome things we Americans have left, as it has done in so many other areas of our lives.

I've enjoyed the WV State Parks & Forests since my childhood and have appreciated the fact that my family and I can go there without the inconveniences alcohol can create. I would like to think that my state and its leaders would want to preserve this great natural resource for generations to come.

Please consider the rights of the majority on this issue and keep alcohol away from this wonderful experience we call Wild & Wonderful West Virginia.

Express yourself instantly with MSN Messenger! Download today - it's FREE!
http://messenger.msn.click-url.com/go/onm00200471ave/direct/01/

Tricia Sizemore

From: RogernTonia@wmconnect.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:41 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: no to beer at parks

I would like to express my concern to you about allowing drinks in parks. One thing that I love about our state parks is that I can take my family and not have to worry about some slobering drunk hoot and hollerin. how bad would it be to have some family get run over by a drunk while they were on a hike in one of our state parks. If they want to drink let them do it at home off the road. thank you

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: article in Bluefield Daily Telegraph

-----Original Message-----
From: Chuck Terry [mailto:cterry@gilbertelectrical.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:34 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: article in Bluefield Daily Telegraph

In reference to the article in the Bluefield Daily Telegraph about the DNR requesting input from the public about allowing alcohol use in the parks. I am against this. I say NAY to this change in policy. I want to see the children stay safe. I believe that is far more important than any increase in park usage by allowing alcohol. What other negative impacts could allowing alcohol, have in the parks? Increased vandalism due to poor decision making of those who consume more than they should. Increased domestic violence. Increased automobile accidents due to DUI. You get my point I'm sure. Please do not allow alcoholic beverages to be consumed in our parks, for the sake of the children as well as those who seek a clean and safe place to enjoy the splendor of God's Creation. Thanks for your time in this matter.

regards,

Chuck Terry Jr.
Designer/ Programmer
Gilbert Electrical Systems
phone:(304)252-6243 ext.126
fax:(304)252-9257
cterry@gilbertelectrical.com
www.gilbertelectrical.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol

-----Original Message-----
From: Pam Drennen [mailto:putt@ntelos.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:39 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Re: Alcohol

Hello,

I read today that alcohol is being considered again to be allowed in our State Parks. Shame! I implore you not to because of our children - and the fights and problems which will surely be an ongoing battle.

Please - Let Us Have SOMEPLACE to go to get away from the crime & alcohol!

Thanks,
Pam Drennen

Tricia Sizemore

From: Stephanie Keen [servant_of_king_jesus@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks!

Mr. John Pope,
In regard to the proposed plan to allow Alcohol in state parks, I must write to say I am against this proposal.

State parks are one place parents can bring their children for a day of fun and relaxation and not worry about drunks acting up, or driving reckless.

Please do not allow parks to become littered with beer cans.

I know that you stated that this would just be by permit for certain occasions such as weddings. Once it is permitted on the premises do you honestly believe it will stop there?

We attended a wedding reception where alcohol was permitted. On their way home from the reception some of the groomsmen and bridesmaid that had been drinking hit a telephone pole. Fortunately they received only minor injuries. This happened just a mile or two from the reception. We certainly do not need this at our state parks where families are gathered. Towns are full of bars where people can go to drink and be monitored and driven home if necessary.

Let our parks be safe as possible and alcohol free.

Thank you,
Concerned Citizen,
Kathy Keen

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http://mail.yahoo.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:17 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Comment Period on Alcohol Policy Changes

-----Original Message-----
From: MichaelLQueen@aol.com [mailto:MichaelLQueen@aol.com]
Sent: Sunday, July 24, 2005 11:35 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Cc: Lysti Looney; parks@westvirginia.com; WVDNR Law Enforcement; Harry Price
Subject: Comment Period on Alcohol Policy Changes

Dear Mr. Murphy,

I read the following Associated Press story regarding the DNR considering whether or not to change the DNR's current policy and allow alcoholic beverages in the State Parks. This AP story encouraged readers to comment on the proposed change by sending an email to the DNR at the website given at the end of the story.

The problem.....the DNR website doesn't have a place for me to comment. If there is one.....I certainly cannot find it. I couldn't even find a place to read about the policy change.

The AP story says that West Virginia residents and taxpayers only have until Friday to respond/comment on the proposed change. Comment by Friday? When the DNR website doesn't even have a link to comment.

What's going on here, Mr. Murphy?

I am against the change and want to encourage other families who frequent West Virginia's state parks to do the same. I can't do that if we don't know how to get our thoughts to the Director.

At the same time, those who support the change should also have the opportunity to do so.

Please email me with information on how any resident (pro or con) can "comment" on the proposed policy change by the current adminstration of the WVDNR to allow alcoholic beverages in our state parks.

In addition, I am requesting that, because the DNR website does not make it easy or event possible to comment on such policy changes, that the current Director allow an additional week for people to respond.

Thanks for your consideration.

Michael L. Queen
Former Legislator - House of Delegates 1989-90
(304) 543-4090
****

DNR seeking comment on plan to allow alcohol at state parks

BECKLEY, W.Va. (Associated Press: July 23, 2005) – The state Division of Natural Resources wants to know how the public feels about allowing alcohol at for some private events at state parks.

The parks system enacted a general prohibition of alcohol at all state parks and forests in 1985, but a "changing marketplace" has led the DNR to consider some changes, spokesman Hoy Murphy said last week.

"We've had many requests from people who want to have this like at wedding receptions and want to have alcoholic beverages at park picnic shelters and other facilities," Murphy said.

Even if the policy change is approved, it would not apply to all parks.

"We have a lot of historical parks that policy would not apply," Murphy said. "We want to keep that family friendly but also want to be able to cater to these other groups that would like to have use of the state parks, where it would not be disturbing to other people in the parks."

Also, all events serving alcohol would have to be approved in advance.

"It will have to be by request," Murphy said. "You won't be able to just walk in with alcohol."

The DNR is accepting comments on the proposed rule change through Friday.

On the Net:

Division of Natural Resources: http://www.wvdnr.org

Tricia Sizemore

From: My_Junkmail [my_junkmail@cebridge.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcoholic beverages

You asked for this one...NOoooooooooooooooooooo!

Let me stress: nooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo!!

Wanna know why? Because I will sue the hell out of you ... we need somewhere to go without being subjected to DRUNKS. What you propose is dangerous and stupid. Our children go to state parks, they play and hike and you are asking for DRUNK DRIVERS to dodge children. Truly, I ask you...how stupid is that?

I cannot believe you are even considering this one. I am so ashamed of you. If you change the ruls WV will be the laughing stock of the U.S.A. Tell you what...why don't WE put up a sign of Smokey the Bear with a beer can and barefoot...oh lets not forget the hunters that do not wear orange cause they think the deer can see them. Whoever thought up this one...well, I think you get the picture or do you?

I like an alcoholic beverage, I'm not a prude but I sure wouldn't give the car keys to someone that's been drinking. That is what you will be doing if you even consider this change.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Samuel W Shaffer [Samuel.W.Shaffer-1@USA.dupont.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:32 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Proposal to allow alcohol in state park facilities

Dear West Virginia DNR,

I am against allowing alcoholic beverages of any type to be possessed or used within our state parks facilities. This may not agree with many but I believe it is the best policy to ensure a continued family environment in our state park system. Thanks for your dedicated service and keep up the great work!

Sincerely,

Sam Shaffer
3629 North Crede Drive
Charleston, WV 25302

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Carolyn Unrue [CUnrue@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Alcohol should not be allowed in park facilities. The potential could be
Devastating to families using the park.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: NO ALCOHOL

-----Original Message-----
From: ETGOFF [mailto:ETGOFF@comcast.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:19 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: NO ALCOHOL

The State Parks of our state are a safety zone for families to enjoy the outdoors. Enough said.

Ed Goff

Tricia Sizemore

From: cherylcando@charter.net
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:42 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: rule change comment

I am against the proposal to amend the existing rule to give the director the authority to provide written permission to groups who rent certain state park facilities to possess beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages for functions not open to the general public.

I believe that state park facilities are not set aside and supported by the public in order to compete with other "party rental" venues. Although the proposed permission would only apply to private functions, these gatherings should adhere to the same restrictions in effect for all areas of park facilities. Although "behind closed doors," these events and/or their preparations are still in view of other park patrons and families.

Cheryl Canterbury

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dennis Hatfield [dhatfield@czarky.net]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:12 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Comment on Proposal to Allow Alcohol Use at WV State Parks

Dear Sir,
I am absolutely opposed to allowing alcohol at WV Park Facilities. We enjoy a family environment in our visits to WV state parks and do not want to expose our children and family gatherings to the disruptions and safety concerns that alcohol usage brings. The park should be a safe haven for families, and not a commercial enterprise that threatens our harmony and security for the sake of the almighty dollar. Alcohol will create an environment adverse to family and church gatherings, and put families at the park more at risk during their visits there. Even if the event is not open to the general public, the effects of alcohol usage will certainly spill out into the environment at the rest of the park.

Please consider rejecting the proposals to introduce alcohol to the WV park facilities.

Dennis R. Hatfield
email: dhatfield@czarky.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: Kimberly Perkins [kperkins@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in parkfacilities

As a WV resident and person who frequents our state parks I would like to request that you DO NOT allow alcohol in state park facilities. Once when my family and I were having a family outing at a non-state campground in the state we had the misfortune of ending up in a campground beside of a group that partied all night....not only did we get no sleep....but the language that my children were subjected to was terrible! We ended up leaving the campground a day early and will never go back to that particular campground. Nothing good can come out of allowing people to drink in our state parks! Our family likes to frequent the state parks because we know that we are not subjecting our family and risking our vacation because of the actions of others that are drinking....if this law passes my family will find other family oriented campgrounds and not use the state park system! Thanks for allowing the citizens to give you our ideas on the matter!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bays, Oliver [oliver.bays@camc.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 12:03 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

KEEP ALCOHOL OUT OF THE PARKS
Oliver

Confidentiality Note: The information contained in this message may be privileged and confidential. If the reader of this is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify the sender immediately by replying to this message and deleting it from your computer. Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cricket Skeen [cricket4u@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 12:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: DNR amendment-alcohol

Reference to rule change-obtaining alcohol at certain parks, lets keep it as is, if people want this, the our state parks resorts can be the place as I believe they can purchase at those locations, if not then let's not put WV up for sale anymore. We are a great state and we all are proud of us, so forget the few and concentrate on the many of true West Virginians.

Cricket Skeen - Kanawha Trail Clubber

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ella Cook [ercook242001@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 12:39 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Re: Alcohol in the state parks

If you allow alcohol in WV State Parks you will be eliminating the families, churches, and parents with small childrent, which I think is the majority of your visitors

Your parks will be filled with drunks that are loud and party all night, which would completely change the atmosphere of our wonderful parks.

Alcohol would destroy your golfing which is beautiful courses. Also think about the roads in the park with a person drinking and driving would be very dangerous to everyone.

I would hope you would consider everything before you think about allowing alcohol in our beautiful, peaceful WV Parks.

Ella Cook, PO Box 239, Cyclone, WV 24827 phone 583 9348

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:03 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol use at state parks and forest

-----Original Message-----
From: Gvhs57@aol.com [mailto:Gvhs57@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:40 AM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Alcohol use at state parks and forest

I do not think alcohol use at state parks and forest is a good idea. It is my opinion, being a frequent user of both state park and forest, is best to leave the rules unchanged.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: alcohol in the parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Mark A Campbell [mailto:markandjenncampb@juno.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:36 AM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: alcohol in the parks

i am begging you please don't allow the alcohol to be used in parks.
they should be as safe as possible, with all the children that are there. we all know that alcohol affects people in many ways, and it could be a bad situation all together...thanks jennifer campbell

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: alocohol in state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: mike9donna@juno.com [mailto:mike9donna@juno.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:07 AM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: alocohol in state parks

just say no to alocohol in our state parks Mr. and Mrs Michael Stephens
Glenwood WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol permitted in my State Parks and State Forests

-----Original Message-----
From: Sandy Williamson [mailto:swilliamson@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:06 AM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Alcohol permitted in my State Parks and State Forests

First of all, media sources tell us that DNR is accepting comments through Friday and does not give the information as to who to contact or where to send the comments. **Could it be that no one really wants to know our comments or hear our concerns?**

I strongly disagree that alcohol should be permitted in **ANY OF MY** State parks and forests. I want to take my grandchildren to any place I want and not worry about some one attending an event that has over indulged and lose control of a vehicle into an area where they are playing or whatever. I do not want to be exposed to the environment that can be created. Prior to the enacted prohibition in 1985 my husband and I were camping in a tent at Holly River State Park and the camp site next to ours had a "booze party". It was disgusting and one of the worse experiences we have had in our park system. **What has changed about the statistics of alcohol contributed problems?** Just because of a "changing marketplace" does not mean we have to jump, too. We have the prohibition in place - if it isn't broke - don't fix it! If someone wants to have their drinks - let them stay home and **don't encourage** them to be in our parks and forests or on our highways. If they want to degrade themselves, let them stay out of my sight. I want to be able to go to whatever park or forest I want, take my grandchildren and family members and not worry.

Sandy Williamson
235 Maple Road
Hurricane, WV 25526

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Deborah Trippett [deborah@mepb.com]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:37 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Proposed change re:Alcohol in State Parks

The following is a letter I have sent to numerous agencies this morning. Tina Holmes at the State Journal directed to you and she also updated me on the ACTUAL change being requested, which is far better than what I first feared, although not perfect.

My thoughts, though some are not applicable due to the since learned knowledge of the requests, are as follows:

I came home this weekend from a camping trip to Pipestem to find there is proposed legislation to legalize alcohol in State Parks. I am appalled. My question is WHY? What is wrong with the prohibition of alcohol in State Parks? Why can't the families be put first and kept there by our society. I am 36 years old and have been enjoying WV Parks for my entire life. I am now passing that joy on to my family.

Many people have and do bring their alcohol into our parks. They do it with discretion, they do it in moderation and they keep to themselves without any disturbances to others who are enjoying the use of the parks. People know it and many of the rangers know it at times, but look the other way as long as things are under control. When they become rowdy, they are removed and their alcohol confiscated (I know-it happened to me on more than one occasion back in my younger years, **and rightfully so**).

Our parks are, most generally, safe, fun and wholesome for our families. You legalize the alcohol and all that changes. The parks are no longer a safe place for our families. The risk increases of our children being hit by a drunk driver while bicycling around the park or campsite. They are put at risk of being injured at the pool or peddle boats by a drunken reveler "having a good time". The quiet times of 10 PM to 7 AM in the campsites will not be obeyed, the number of fights will increase and I, and others, will not feel as comfortable leaving our belongings at campsites. I can also almost guarantee our parks will have more litter and debris. Partiers don't care how much trash they leave behind. The Parks will be forced to hire more help to clean up after them or others will just have to endure what is left behind by those "having a good time".

We don't want our children around partying. We don't take them to bars or outdoor festivals that become drunken bashes for a reason. Will we have to start staying away from our state parks as well now? We don't want our children growing up thinking you must have alcohol to have a good time or that it is a necessary item for survival. We don't want our children seeing the consumption of alcohol on a regular basis as normal, nor do we want them seeing or being part of the after effects of such consumption. Everyone knows that more and more common sense goes out the door with each can of beer or shot of liquor.

With the legalization of alcohol at our State Parks, more and more characters of question will inundate our parks putting our families at risk. The prohibition of alcohol in our parks has worked for 20 years, why "fix it" if it isn't broken?

As a taxpayer, supporter and user of the State Parks of West Virginia, I would appreciate some response at (800) 551-3310 or via e-mail at Deborah@mepb.com. I am sending copies (or portions) of this to my Representatives, the Governor, the State Journal and the local paper.

Deborah J. Trippett
McDonough, Eddy, Parsons & Baylous, A.C.
412 Market Street, Suite 201
P.O. Box 184
Parkersburg, WV 26102
(304) 428-8091 Phone
(304) 485-6252 Fax

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sandy Williamson [swilliamson@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 1:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Please make sure my comments (below in red) are included in the survey. Thank you. Sandy Williamson.

Ms Williamson:

We can send out the information, but we have not control over which parts of it the media sources use. You can get full details first-hand at our Web sites at www.wvdnr.gov or www.wvstateparks.com . I'm a forwarding your comments to our Parks people for their survey.

Thank you for enjoying your state parks.

Hoy Murphy
Public Information Officer
WV Division of Natural Resources
(304) 558-3380

-----Original Message-----
From: Sandy Williamson [mailto:swilliamson@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:06 AM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Alcohol permitted in my State Parks and State Forests

First of all, media sources tell us that DNR is accepting comments through Friday and does not give the information as to who to contact or where to send the comments. **Could it be that no one really wants to know our comments or hear our concerns?**

I strongly disagree that alcohol should be permitted in **ANY OF MY** State parks and forests. I want to take my grandchildren to any place I want and not worry about some one attending an event that has over indulged and lose control of a vehicle into an area where they are playing or whatever. I do not want to be exposed to the environment that can be created. Prior to the enacted prohibition in 1985 my husband and I were camping in a tent at Holly River State Park and the camp site next to ours had a "booze party". It was disgusting and one of the worse experiences we have had in our park system. **What has changed about the statistics of alcohol contributed problems?** Just because of a "changing marketplace" does not mean we have to jump, too. We have the prohibition in place - if it isn't broke - don't fix it! If someone wants to have their drinks - let them stay home and **don't encourage** them to be in our parks and forests or on our highways. If they want to degrade themselves, let them stay out of my sight. I want to be able to go to whatever park or forest I want, take my grandchildren and family members and not worry.

Sandy Williamson
235 Maple Road

7/29/2005

Hurricane, WV 25526

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brian & Zina Balash [BZBalash@ntelos.net]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:25 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

I am not in favor of changing the current policy prohibiting alcohol in state parks. The park guests can still ride bikes or walk on trails that would come in direct contact with picnic shelters or designated areas rented for private parties. The park is not the place to hold your private function if you wish to serve alcohol at your event. Even with the current policy, we find more than enough beer bottles, cans and lids to clean up from our campsite in every state park we have visited so far. Our children had to witness a drunken young man fighting with his spouse in a campsite next to ours at Blackwater Falls campground 2 weekends ago. This particular family had several sites for a reunion and beer was in plain site. It only takes one individual to ruin it for the rest of us who were just trying to enjoy an evening around our campfire.

Sincerely,
Zina Balash
Bridgeport, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cookie Shamblin [cshamblin@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:34 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in parkfacilities

I have had to witness drunks and drinking most of my life. From my observation, most people cannot hold their booze, are loud, obnoxious, mean and think they're "so cute." My ex- was very violent and I lived in that situation for 16+ years. Every single problem he/we had was related to drinking. Great when he wasn't drinking. Nuts when he was.
So I'd have to say I'd prefer NOT to be around drinking. Though I may have 2-3 beers a year if I'm working out in the heat, I still detest the smell of booze and what it represents, which is usually "trouble." I come from a long line of alcoholics and have seen many a families torn apart by drinking/drugs, so I'm pretty much against anything that alters the way a person conducts one's self.

I see "big trouble down the road" and huge liability issues and consequences if alcohol is allowed at parks again. Those who feel "big," "bad to the bone," and "brave" when they're drinking usually do VERY STUPID things and don't seem to care whose lives they endanger while doing it. This, coupled with the meth and other drug problems we have these days, doesn't seem like a very smart move for us older, supposed-to-be more intelligent adults. I repeat. Most people DO NOT drink responsibly. Otherwise, we wouldn't have all the DUI's on record.

If memory serves me correctly (and it may not), wasn't it a shooting/killing back several years ago at a park that brought about the "No Drinking" law in the first place? If so, why in the world resurrect a problem that would put innocent children and their families in that kind of danger again unnecessarily? If people want to drink, they should do so in private. Wouldn't that promote/encourage more DUI offenses? Isn't there enough of that already at night? Why make it even easier in the daytime unless you're "wanting" people to get caught to boost the "fine revenues?"

Though an advance request would have to be made and only at "certain private events," there would STILL be people who would break the rules.
Drunkards feel they "own the world," and should be able to do what they want, when they want, etc. - much like some smokers. I don't much care what a person does in their own home, but I DO care when it comes to my health and the safety of those who try their best to obey laws and get along with the world and I especially care when the safety of young children might be involved.

Maybe, I've misunderstood what I've read in the paper, but I'd have to say that some VERY CAREFUL consideration should be given to this idea before passing a law that would allow drinking at parks where families gather. I would personally never take a child or go to a park for the day if I knew in advance booze was allowed.

Sherry L. Shamblin, Administrative Secretary
OPQI - BCF - WVDHHR
350 Capitol Street, Room 730
Charleston, WV 25301-3711
Ph: (304) 558-8563; Fax: (304) 558-4577

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rosemary Garrison [rosemarygarrison@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:40 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in parkfacilities

There are many locations where drinking is allowed. But the number of places a family can visit without being exposed to alcohol is dwindling
almost daily. Protect our state parks. DO NOT ALLOW ALCOHOL THERE!

Please call or email if you have any questions. Thank you.

Rosemary Garrison
BCSE, OSCAR Support Unit
350 Capitol St, Rm 147
Charleston WV 25301-3703
304-558-3608
rosemarygarrison@wvdhhr.org

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bonnie.Tucker@huntington.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:45 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am really surprised that this would even be a topic of discussion considering the liability to the State. I am entirely against the possession of alcohol in park facilities. We want to keep our tourism in the State of WV and not have them run off by a bunch of roudy drunks.

Bonnie Tucker
Senior Account Relationship Associate
Special Assets Group
Phone: (304) 623-7262
Fax: (304) 623-7101
Email: bonnie.tucker@huntington.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: LAW

-----Original Message-----
From: Frank Daugherty [mailto:fdaugherty@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 2:57 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: LAW

I was informed of being about to express my option of the law to allow alcohol in some state parks, well here goes, as you know starting it will lead eventually to all parks all the time. I know you will say no but, keep for Family's. Frank Daugherty

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brenda Craig Ellis [BELLIS@dot.state.wv.us]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 3:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in the parks
Importance: High
Sensitivity: Confidential

Ms. Sizemore,

I love our State parks and enjoy the solitude and peacefulness of them. The family-friendly environment is a major attraction. I am opposed to alcoholic beverages in State parks. The consumption of alcohol loosens inhibitions and almost always increases the noise level. Alcohol can be consumed elsewhere but our State parks need to be safe havens for families on outings. Parents should not be fearful that their children will be exposed to inebrieated folks while enjoying the park facilities.

Thank you,
Brenda Craig Ellis

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 3:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Comments on Alcohol Policy

-----Original Message-----
From: MichaelLQueen@aol.com [mailto:MichaelLQueen@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 3:05 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Comments on Alcohol Policy

The Honorable J.R. Pope
Division Chief of Parks & Recreation
WV Department of Natural Resources
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston,WV 25305

RE: State Parks Alcohol Policy

Chief Pope,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the DNR's proposal to expand the alcohol policy at West Virginia's state parks.

My family frequents state parks throughout the state, for more than thirty years we owned a home at Audra State Park and I have had the wonderful opportunity to serve on the Watters Smith State Park Foundation.

In order to accommodate a few requests each year, I think it is a mistake to allow any expansion of the DNR's current policy regarding the consumption of alcoholic beverages at our state parks. Our state parks are family oriented areas visited by tens of thousands of West Virginia families every year.

My family does not support changing our current policy and we ask that the DNR strengthen is current effort to restrict alcoholic beverages from our state park system.

Again, thanks for this opportunity to comment on the proposed changes.

Sincerely,

Mike Queen
(304) 624-5080

Tricia Sizemore

From: Susan Schneeberger [susanschneeberger@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 3:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol

I have already written in regards to the pet in cabins so now I will write to you about the liquor in the state parks.

Even though it would not be open to the general public the general public could get involved. Someone gets drunk and starts a fight with an innocent party or runs them down with a car or runs their car in the lake. Or the same situation just apply it to a boat.

Parks were and still should be for families. I do not consider having alcohol in a state park a family oriented park. Even if you go to Mrytle Beach, SC you are not allowed to have open containers of alcohol on the beach or outside of your hotel room.

If this law was passed I would avoid the state parks that allow either pets or alcohol. I like the state parks very much and would much rather spend my money in them, then to have my money go to some chain hotel that doesn't care about West Virginia.

Don't spoil our natural wonders with pets or alcohol. A good clean fun time can be had without alcohol.

Lets keep West Virginia State Parks Dry!

Sincerely,
Susan Schneeberger

Susan Schneeberger, OAII
Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept.
211 6th Street
Parkersburg, WV 26101
(304) 485-1416

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 3:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Comments on alcohol policy

-----Original Message-----
From: Robert W. Morris [mailto:RMorris@TetrickBartlett.Com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 3:41 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Comments on alcohol policy

Mr. J.R. Pope
Division Chief of Parks & Recreation
WV Department of Natural Resources
State Capitol Complex
Building 3, Room 713
Charleston, WV 25305

Chief Pope:

I would like to express my opinion on the proposed changes to the alcohol policy as regards West Virginia State Parks.

My family has visited and camped at various State Parks in West Virginia for the last 30 years. I believe that to ease the restrictions on alcohol consumption at State Parks in West Virginia is wrong and would be detrimental to the family orientational atmosphere so much needed in today's society. It is a pleasure to visit the Parks without the worry of alcohol related incidents and side effects, and to know that at least there is some place in West Virginia that places the "family" first.

Personally, I can enjoy a function and have fun without the influence of alcohol. With today's emphasis on drinking and driving, underage drinking and all of the other ill effects of alcohol, I wonder why the State would consider any move to bring alcohol into any segment under its control.

My vote, and the vote of my family, is "NO" alcohol in the State Parks in West Virginia.

Thank you,

Robert W. Morris
624-5564
~~~~~~~~~~
Robert W. Morris
Tetrick & Bartlett, PLLC
RMorris@TetrickBartlett.Com
~~~~~~~~~~

Tricia Sizemore

From: Martyfan777@aol.com

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 5:52 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I feel that alcohol in state parks would not be a good idea because the people who are drinking would possibly be a danger to families in the park. So my vote is no alcohol at parties or otherwise in the parks. Thank You, sincerely,Linda hornbeck

Tricia Sizemore

From: Minter C Foster [retnim@juno.com]
ent: Monday, July 25, 2005 6:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I feel that the current rules governing alcohol in park facilities are adequate. Having worked in the park system for several years and having to deal with drunks and the mess created by drunks, the DNR does not need to go back to the way things were several years ago. People consistently show that they cannot handle alcohol and simply cause problems.

If WV wants to promote the parks as a place for families to go they do not need to allow alcohol back into the system. Alcohol does not improve the park experience. In the long run it causes more harm and cost to the system than the benefits to be gained by allowing it.

For these reasons, I am against changing the rules.

Minter Foster
115 E. Hillview Drive
Morgantown, WV 26508
(304)292-3411
retnim@juno.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: diannaandal [retiredfolks@ntelos.net]

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 6:30 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

AS SENIOR CITIZENS WE DO NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF
ALCOHOL BEING ALLOWED IN THE STATE PARKS...
AS SOON AS THIS IS ALLOWED THE NEXT PLACE WILL BE THE CAMP GROUNDS OF WV...CHILDREN DO NOT NEED TO BE SUBJECTED TO THIS HABIT AT ANY STATE PARK OR CAMPGROUND...IF PEOPLE WANT TO DRINK LET THEM DO SO OTHER THAN AN OPEN PUBLIC PLACE..THE STATE HAS TAKEN THE SMOKERS
RIGHTS AWAY AND DRINKING CAUSES MORE DEATHS
THAN SMOKING. WHO DO THESE PEOPLE THINK THEY
ARE FOOLING??? FIRST THE PARKS THEN THE CAMP
GROUNDS WHICH ARE ALREADY BEING SIGHTED FOR CLOSING BECAUSE THE OFFICIALS CLAIM ARE NOT MAKING MONEY WHERE IS THE LOTTERY MONEY GOING??????????????????????????

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nona Farley [nmfarley@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I don't think drinking should be allowed in state park's,it's very bad for our children to be around drunk people.thank you---nona farley

Tricia Sizemore

From: Murl & Mary rogers [rogersm@bcnetmail.org]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Please keep the alcohol out of the state parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Bball7771@aol.com

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:08 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Please do not allow alcohol in the parks. I feel that this is a safe place for family's to gather to have fun without the interference of alcohol. Alcohol will cause problems!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hugh Anderson Jr. [hughanderson845@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 8:54 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Please DO NOT amend the rules to allow alcoholic beverages into state parks. Our parks are beautiful, relaxing places for FAMILIES to visit. Allowing alcohol - even beer and wine - into our parks would lead to the destruction of the atmosphere that has been so carefully cultivated over the years.

Those who would argue that "It would be tightly controlled and drunken parties would not be permitted," THINK! AFTER it happens - even once - it's too late...someone else's visit to the park has already been ruined. Likewise, even if drunks are turned out of the park, it's too late! Once a drunk disturbs the peace and quiet atmosphere, it is gone! Courts do not possess time machines.

West Virginia's state parks are a treasure that belongs to ALL people of the state - not just a few who depend on alcohol as a crutch to have a "good" time.

West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co., which owned the town of Cass at one time, never permitted alcohol in its town. Should we now consider breaking a long-standing tradition by allowing alcohol in that town? In the world today, we hear a lot about "family values." Keeping our state parks "dry" enhances those values, keeping at least one place that families can take their children and relax, without concern about drunks ruining their time together.

Let me state simply: I am opposed to any proposal that would amend the rules to allow alcoholic beverages to be consumed or possessed in park facilities!

Hugh M. Anderson, Jr.
Moundsville, WV
hughanderson845@msn.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Yousefweston@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:13 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Please do not allow alcohol in our parks.
We want it safe for our children.
Thanks,

John Smith

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jack Albert [jackalsr@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:29 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Proposed Rule Change for State Parks

I am opposed to permitting alcoholic beverages in WV State Parks. Thank you.

--- Jack Albert
--- jackalsr@earthlink.net
--- EarthLink: The #1 provider of the Real Internet.

Tricia Sizemore

From: DalesRosebud@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 9:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: No Alcholic Beverages Served in National Parks!

I had a cousin of mine tell me to email you to let you know if I was in favor or not of alcoholic beverages being served in our national parks. I just wanted to say that I am not in favor of alcoholic beverages being served in our national parks. I don't believe it is a good thing.....alcohol messes the mind up.....it would just be trouble. You couldn't even go on a family picnic without being afraid of what might happen. There is too much out in the world now keeping us from getting out with our families.....don't mess the parks up too.

Thanks!

I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me!

Tricia Sizemore

From: GIBarbi2000@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 10:33 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Allowing alcohol in state parks would no longer allow state parks to be a place for families. Also, would you wants someone who has been drinking to drive along where you are riding a bike or walking?

Tricia Sizemore

From: Margaret Poling [poling414@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:22 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I wish to express my point of view concerning alcohol in the state parks. I surely hope that this does not materialize. There will be more accidents in the parks and maybe deaths especially on lakes and rivers. I can't believe that this is even being discussed. A park is a nice place to take the family and with a bunch of loud mouth drunks that family recreation will become a thing of the past. Please do not let this come to fruition.

Sincerely, Margaret H. Poling
Grafton, WV

Marge -
Psalms 37:3-5 and Proverbs 3:5-9
MAY CHRIST GIVE TO YOU
AT THIS TIME AND ALWAYS
HIS PEACE IN YOU SOUL
HIS PRESENCE IN YOUR HEART
HIS POWER IN YOUR LIFE

Tricia Sizemore

From: TracyMS2@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I think it SHOULD NOT be allowed. I want to have a nice family outing without worrying about alcohol ruining my fun. I don't want my child around drunken, belligerent people. If you can't have a good time without alcohol for awhile then you have a problem. I think it would also add extra security problems and more dui's. thank you, Tracy Shreve

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sharon Weekley, GU Coordinator [dcmsgu@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol

I love the state park system. I like having a clean, safe play to go with my children and grandchildren. I am against allowing alcohol in state parks for any function, public or private. While I think the majority of people use alcohol responsibly, there are too many who do not. Those who over imbibe often do not stay in their private gathering. They drink, they behave badly with crude language, and sometimes they drive. I feel the safety of my family would be compromised by allowing alcohol into state parks. I fear the negative encounters that could occur. Keep our parks free of alcohol and free of the problems that irresponsible use brings.

Sharon Weekley
HC 69 Box 9A
West Union, WV 26456

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Shaloam224@wmconnect.com

Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:50 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I think the law should stay as it is.Alcohol changes peoples temperment and can be very dangerous to other people if the right opportunity comes up.And it could cause children to be unsafe.Please keep the law as it is.Thank you for being able to put my point of view into this.Thank you for considering the publics input on this.May God bless our country and our Nat'l Parks and everyone concerned. Sincerely,Ruth Tryon East View,W.V.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wtstms@aol.com
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:55 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

No...No...No... people can drink in bars. if you have to drink to have fun then you have a problem. it will cause an increase in security because someone is always drunk. dui's will be up. not to mention the litter that it causes and people peeing all over because they don't want to go to the real bathroom because of impaired judgement. and don't get me started on how dirty the bathrooms will be, people puking, peeing, and pooping everywhere but the toilet. just nasty.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Wayne and Linda Beall [wlbeall@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 12:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I do not think that alcoholic beverages should be allowed in State Parks. I have been in Emergency Services for over twenty-five years. I would say 95% of all calls in the State Parks around our area have been alcohol related. These have ranged from drownings to shootings and all other types of calls. I understand there is an economic impact this could have, but you cannot put that value over life, and the things innocent adults and children see when something happens. They go to these parks to get away from this type of crowd or atmosphere.

Wayne Beall
Fire Chief
Grafton Fire Department

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Gocanoe617@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 2:06 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

To whom this may concern:

My name is Joanna Ross, and I am a WV resident in Marion County. I am 32 years old, and I would like to voice my opinion on this matter. I do not feel it is necessary to allow alcohol of any kind in our state parks. If people cannot visit these places without drinking, then they need to stay home or have their function somewhere else. My thought is, if alcohol is allowed back in, other people, myself included, will feel less secure because you will have to deal with intoxicated people and their behavior. We all know what the effects of alcohol can do to a person. If I had a family and small children, I would not feel safe taking them to a place where there was alcohol. Take Valley Falls State Park for example. There was a drowning there just this week. Those people were not drinking though. My point is, there is no reason why people should be allowed to drink there because it just simply would not be safe. It is a dangerous place. Yes, some people would be able to go there and have a drink or two, but then you would have others who would totally take advantage of the new rule and before you know it, you have more accidents due to alcohol at the Falls! Why should you be allowed to drink in a state park when you are not (to my knowledge) allowed to drink on rivers or lakes while fishing or operating a boat? What's the difference between driving a boat drunk and drinking at a picnic at a state park and getting in the car and driving home while intoxicated? To me, they are BOTH a risk. I think this is a dangerous decision. You, the state, must stop and think about the increase in patrol people you would have to have at state parks to make sure people were not abusing the rule, you have to think about would this help or hurt the tourism (and don't just look at the money making part of it), you must think about the families and children that frequent these places of nature and it's beauty. To me, allowing alcohol back into the parks is going to have a rippling effect. Like I stated previously, drunk driving is going to increase, and accidents at the parks will increase. My family and I go to these parks in WV to enjoy being outside, away from the every day hassles of life, NOT to be bothered by some intoxicated person harassing us, or see people misbehaving because they are a little too intoxicated. You probably think that I do not drink after reading this email. I do drink alcoholic beverages, but I also think there is a time and a place for doing it and our state parks are not the place. Also, think of the litter–the cans, the bottles, the broken glass. I just don't think it is necessary.

Sincerely,
Joanna Marie Ross

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara Jones [bjones@rtol.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 11:13 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Let's not abuse our state parks, KEEP THEM FAMILY FRIENDLY. THIS IS JUST ONE MORE AREA WHERE DRINKERS WANT TO PARTY. REMEMBER THE RIGHTS OF THE NON-DRINKING PEOPLE!!!!!!!!!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 8:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol in State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: joyce evans [mailto:joymeva@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 5:47 PM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

Sir,
In reference to allowing alcohol in state parks, I don't even see how you could consider such a thing. The state parks are perfect for family vacations and weekends. You know and I know that alcohol only leads to loud "mouthing", destruction of property and litter of areas. If people can't go to a wedding or other functions and miss one day of alcohol, they have a real problem! am adamantly oppose allowing alcohol in any of our state parks. I believe if it was possible to put this issue before West Virginia citizens it would be overwhelmingly defeated.

Leon Evans

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marisa Nichols [gotland@citynet.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 8:50 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Alcohol should be allowed in all state parks, regardless if it is private or public. I think that by allowing this there will be a lot more people using these facilities.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:05 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol and WV. State Parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Brenda Lester [mailto:blester2@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:53 AM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: Alcohol and WV. State Parks



I am greatly opposed to allowing alcohol in our parks!!!! People are not good at monitoring themselves speeding around where families picnic and play. I can not believe it is even up for question!!! Drugs are bad let's not add to it. If people want Beer there is non-alcoholic types and theres is no shortage on drink variety for Picnics etc. Private park parties can still run other patrons down or cause trouble if drunk. This would be the worst mistake WV. could make!!!!!
My husband and I both feel this way. Please do not follow through with this.

Sincerely,
Brenda Lester
(304)988-1046
blester2@verizon.net

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:05 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----
From: Teresa Losh [mailto:purplebear823@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 11:22 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject:

To whom this may concern,

I do not feel alcohol should be allowed in our state parks. There are a few reasons why I have this opinion.

First, people who drink have a tendency to act irresponsible, causing excessive noise, littering, and possibly violence. I would not want to be

having a family picnic next to a table full of drunk rowdy people using foul language etc. Second, there is no reason why people who want to drink

should be around water sports or hunting activities. The parks we have here in West Virginia are beautiful, why pollute them with beer cans and

bottles.

When I hear this story of the news I was outraged! Please keep our parks alcohol free. Let people drink at home or in a bar.

Thank you

Teresa Losh

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: drinking at state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Robert Eubank [mailto:reubank@ma.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:47 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: drinking at state parks

I just saw an article on wboy tv that you are considering letting alcoholic drinks on state park grounds. I have a family and we visit state parks often. But I can tell you that if you let this happen that it will affect my going to the parks. Besides having to expose my children to people drinking you will have the added expense of higher risk insurance to consider. And even the cost of adding extra rangers having to make trips to the areas where the drinks are allowed, settleing disputes and after the events are done you will have much more clean up work to do. This is just my two cents worth. I am sure there are opinions both ways. I just hope more are against it than for it. Our parks are a wonderful asset to WV and I have been visiting them for years, first with my folks and now with my children. Lets keep them as safe and clean as we can. It is hard enough to stay on top of them now with out the added problems that drinking can add. You and I may understand what the word moderation means but I can tell you that lots of folks who are celebrating this that or the other don't always practice moderation in drinking.

Bob Eubank and Family

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:06 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: NO Alcohol!!!!!!

-----Original Message-----
From: mccoy3 [mailto:mccoy3@mikrotec.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 7:14 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: NO Alcohol!!!!!!

"PLEASE" Don't let alcohol come into our parks!!!!!!!
I am a mother and a grandmother .... and I nor my husband drink!
We visit the parks often and we go fishing on the lakes.
I see no need in allowing alcohol in any state park!
There is enough "DRUNKS" as is on our roads, that would only add more!
So Please don't let this take place!
I like knowing ,that when we go to the park to picnic or to the lake to fish, that where're not going to run into a bunch of people that are drinking or who may be "DRUNK" already!

That's My Opinion!
Susan McCoy

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:12 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: drinking

-----Original Message-----
From: John Finley [mailto:jfinley7@juno.com]
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2005 5:50 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: drinking

I don't thank we should bring back drinking in the state parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Connie Posey [gse02066@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am sending this e-mail opposing that any type of alcohol be permitted in our state parks.

About a couple of years ago, my family was camping in one of our state park camping grounds. In the middle of the night, the people in the campsite next to us awoke us with screaming obscenities and it sounded like someone was beating up a car with a baseball bat. You could tell by the voice of one of the men that he was drunk. Some of the other people (it was more than one family) in the campsite was trying to get him settled down but couldn't. This lasted for about an hour before the guy finally settled down. It was so frightening that we were afraid to go out and say anything to them. Since we could not see everything that was going on, the next morning, we decided to go for a walk so we could see on the other side of the camper. There was the car that had been damaged with something the night before. It was so smashed up.

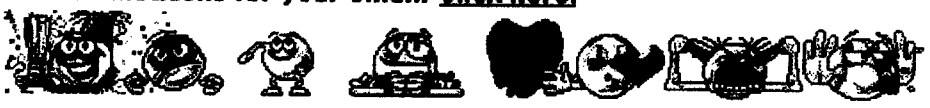
Even though drinking was not permitted in this park, this happened. I can't imagine what would take place if alcohol was permitted in our state parks.

I believe state parks should be a safe place where families can go and enjoy their vacations, sightseeing, recreation, etc. without having to deal with violence or drinking. If it is permitted in state parks, I can imagine that there will be more episodes like the one mentioned above and that we will lose control of our state parks.

Thank you for your time and I hope this will be helpful in your decision.

Connie Posey

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Dinah Adkins, Co.Pres. [dadkins@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in state parks

I am firmly against allowing alcohol in WV state parks. We have enough drunk driving and teenagers involved in drinking and this would only contribute to the problem even if it is only for weddings, etc. Please do not allow this. Dinah Adkins Cross Lanes

Tricia Sizemore

From: mstomblin@aep.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:45 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore

I am opposed to allowing drinking of alcoholic beverages at our WV State Parks. These parks are about the only place that we can take our families and know they will not be exposed to alcohol. Also, if drinking of alcoholic beverages in our parks will open our parks up to partying and possible dangerous situations. This can also lead to under age drinking of minors. If this is allowed, our parks will not be safe places to visit.

Please pass this along and hopefully this will not be allowed.

Thank you.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Cheryl R. Davis [cdavis@woodlandpress.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 12:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: WV State Parks

Ms. Sizemore:

We just heard on WVOW radio that the state is considering allowing alcohol in the state parks, if we understood correctly. We hope that this will NOT happen! The last thing we need is for our beautiful parks, including Chief Logan which our family enjoys year round, to become a hang-out for a bunch of intoxicated idiots, potentially endangering the lives of innocent children and adults. We appreciate the park for its natural beauty and serenity, and would not be able to enjoy it or feel safe, should the DNR allow this. The truth is that there would be no one to regulate overconsumption and not enough police to watch for drunk drivers or out-of-control behavior. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW ALCOHOL IN OUR PARKS!!!

Thank you for allowing me to voice my opinion.

Cheryl Davis
118 Woodland Drive
Chapmanville, WV 25508
cdavis@woodlandpress.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lillerlacey@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:00 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I do not believe that alcohol should be allowed in state parks and forests. doing so will only cause problems for other visitors and employees. if its not broke, don't fix it. thanks

Tricia Sizemore

From: steve ingledew [stevei@kvinet.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 1:21 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Drinking in the park

Please, lets not allow drinking in our parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jarvisbunch@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:09 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

this is the one place that a family can go without the influence of alcohol around our children. please think of the behavors we will be subjected to and dangers as we ride bikes in the parks walk to the restrooms at night and the increase in boating accidents.

a very concerned parent
diana jarvis

Tricia Sizemore

From: james bell [bell3030@webtv.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:25 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in state parks

I am against alcohol in West Virginia's state parks.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Charlie Moses [CMOSES@wvdep.org]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:34 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks and Forests

I would like to comment on DNR's proposal to allow alcohol in State Parks and Forests. I am totally against it even on a limited basis. Our parks and forests are the only place that a family can go to have a good clean enjoyable time without people drinking and getting loud and obnoxious. Just think about it, how many places can a family go today without having to put up with people drinking and using foul language. There are very few places. Our parks and forests are great and a blessing to have. I not only speak for myself, but also for my friends and neighbors who support and enjoy our parks and forests. Keep West Virginia"s State Parks and Forests free from alcohol not only for my family but all the other families that depend on our parks and forests as a source of good clean recreation. You don't need to be drinking alcohol to enjoy the beauty of West Virginia. Thanks for your consideration.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Shawna Barnard [shawnabarnard@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 11:04 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I would like to say that I hope you **DO NOT ALLOW** people to bring alcohol into our beautiful state parks and forests. I think that by allowing this you are asking for problems that you are neither ready for or staffed to deal with. People who consume alcohol are put into an alternate state of mind and this causes not only loudness and rudeness but they tend not to clean up after themselves. I an not saying that this is true about all people who like to drink. But coming from a family that likes to throw back a few, I have learned that alcohol in the majority of people completely changes them, whether they "try" to stay sober or not. So please, please do not allow this to happen. We camp at many of the states campgrounds and I enjoy not having to worry if the people camped next to us are going to be up all night drinking and I also don't want my kids subjected to this behavior.

Thanks,

Shawna Barnard

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Paul Musgrave [pmusgrave@webtv.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 11:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I have a comment which won't set well with money making schemes to allow alcohol in our State Parks. I represrent the Woman's Christian Temperance Union on WV and our organization is strictly against alcohol consumtion in any place especially State Parks. First of all who will supervise who will bringalcohol to wedding receptions? It would end up every function or outing at our state Parks . Are we going to ban chrildren from these approved alcohol functions? Our chrildren are exposed to enough Alcohol and drugs. State parks would not be safe for our chrildren with drunks being around where ever yoiu have alochol you have crimes being commited and drunk drivers. Beer and alocohol manufactures have tried to for years to exploit the sale of alcohol and once they get there foot in the door. Drinking Alcohol would just be like gambling spread all over WV . WE HAVE TO TAKE A STAND SOMEPLACE AND SAY NO TO ALCOHOL IN OUR STATE PARKS.

Woman's Christian Temperance Union Mary Musgrave
Rt. 6, Box 212
Clarksburg,, WV 26301

Tricia Sizemore

From: Keith White [poolie48@msn.com]
ent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 11:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: jkw46@charter.net
Subject: Against

Hi:
I am writing about the alocohol in the state parks. I am totally against it because what it will
do to the parks and also get people hurt. As the comment was made today was that this is
the only place for families to go to for family reunions and enjoy the park. People get carried
away with drinking and causes nothing but problems in the long and short run. Please
do not allow this to happen to our parks. We need a place to go to have fun not to see
people get hurt. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN.

Keith White

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Billie Shearer on behalf of Wildlife Resouces General Mailbox
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 1:23 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcoholic beverages in the state parks

-----Original Message-----
From: Wilson, Steve [mailto:SWilson@psc.state.wv.us]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 11:54 AM
To: Wildlife Resouces General Mailbox
Subject: Alcoholic beverages in the state parks

This is not a good idea. The result will be accidents, obnoxious behavior, and lots of trash left behind. Let's keep the parks for family use.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Michael Hines [mkh3868@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 1:32 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol and state parks

It would not be a good idea to allow alcohol in state parks. Lets keep the family atmosphere!!!

Michael Hines

Tricia Sizemore

From: JudyLindsay1@cs.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 1:46 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Comment on alcohol at state parks

Please do not change the general prohibition of alcohol at all state parks and forests. I believe if alcohol is allowed, under any circumstance, West Virginians will lose something we hold dear. My family has visited many parks during the last 23 years, and we enjoy the tranquility and beauty. Alcohol has no place in our parks. Please do not allow it. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Judith Lindsay
3002 Brierwood Road
Culloden, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Judy Underwood [jaunder@mountain.net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 1:42 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I believe that state parks should NOT allow alcoholic beverages . They are only a few places left where one can spend family time without alcohol. My family has spend many wonderful vacations and week-ends in our parks. Thank You

Tricia Sizemore

From: Broyles, Eugenia [Eugenia.Broyles@ssa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 3:11 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

State parks are still one place I can take my children and expect a "family oriented" environment. To allow alcoholic beverages would be to invite trouble. Does the state have the funds to provide the increase in law enforcement? What about the problems with underage drinking? It would be to the best interest of the public as a whole to let the state parks remain dry. I have been an avid user of the park system and would like to remain so.

Sincerely,
Eugenia Mills Broyles

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jennifer Coleman [jbcoleman56@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 3:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol at State Parks

Hi,

I want to comment on allowing alcohol in our WV State Parks. I am very much against allowing alcohol in any of our state parks. Our parks are beautiful and I want them to stay that way. I worked at Pipestem State Park for two and 1/2 years. In that time, I dealt with way too many drunks and alcohol was not allowed. If it is allowed, the number of drunks to deal with will increase. It is hard on employees, other guests and also on the park itself. Furniture gets broken, shrubs and landscaping get driven through and general maintenance becomes harder and more expensive.

Our park system is a diamond in a "dirty coal" state. We should keep it free from the effects of those who wish to partake in activity that can be devastating. Even "private parties" become public problems when the partakers take to the road.

Please DO NOT allow alcohol use in our state parks. Keep them our number 1 asset.

Sincerely,

Jennifer B. Coleman
158 Ranch Lake Blvd
Scott Depot, WV 25560
757-9091

Tricia Sizemore

From: Djcruise@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 3:53 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: State parks and liquor

DO NOT CHANGE THE REGULATIONS!

For years there has been no need to have liquor allowed in state parks because there were other places to have private parties where it was allowed. It seems that there are now even more facilities available for serving drinks whereas there are fewer where individuals can go without the possibility of running into drinking parties.

DO NOT CHANGE! KEEP THE PARKS FREE OF LIQUOR. Drink elsewhere!

Denny and Ann Cruise
Culloden, WV 25510

Tricia Sizemore

From: JERRY WORKMAN [jdw52348@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 4:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: DRINKING IN PARKS



MY FAMILY IS VERY MUCH AGAINST ALCAHOL IN THE WV PARKS SYSTEMS
THEY SHOULD STAY A FAMILY PARK WITHOUT WORRING ABOUT ALL THE DRINKING PROBLEMS THAT WILL HAPPEN.

PLEASE LEAVE IT LIKE IT HAS BEEN FOR MANY YEARS 
THANK YOU
JERRY WORKMAN
P.O. BOX 710
HOLDEN,WV 25625
304-239-2939

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Jesse Angle [hawkeye27@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in public parks

I AM AGAINST ALCOHOL IN PARKS OR ANY OTHER PLACE.

Tricia Sizemore

From: vinel10 [holley10@zoominternet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 6:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

my family and I go to our parks as often as possible and I would like to say people gets drumk on beer as well as any drinks drunks has no sence of limits I aint seen a drumk yet that I would want to around mostly in our parks my vote is NO

–
No virus found in this outgoing message.
Checked by AVG Anti-Virus.
Version: 7.0.323 / Virus Database: 267.9.5/58 - Release Date: 7/25/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: mossburgess@charter.net
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:25 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in state parks

I am opposed to permitting alcohol to be used or permitted in our state parks. Our parks are places where families can go without being bothered by a bunch of drunks. Moss Burgess box 66 Wilkinson, W.V. 25653

Tricia Sizemore

From: Marchetia Hawkins [marchetia@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 7:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in state parks

I am writing to voice my opinion against alcohol being allowed in state parks. These places are family places to take our children and grandchildren, also lots of church groups use these facilities for church functions. We need someplace clean and safe and family oriented. Every day we are losing more and more of these places. Please keep our parks secure.

Marchetia

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Tricia Sizemore

From: tom fortune [tommyannetta@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 8:50 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol

It is my request that we do not allow alcohol in our W.Va. State Parks. Because this must be a safe haven for our families.

Again no Alcohol please.

Thank You

Thomas Fortune
201 First Street
West Logan, WV 25601

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara Brunty [BGBrunty@Intelos.Net]

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:06 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

I am totally AGAINST this proposal. Parks are for families! People of all ages!!! State Parks should be considered a safe place for children to play. Bars and clubs are for adults over the age of twenty-one. We do not allow our children in adult drinking establishments, and we should not allow our drinking adults in our children's playground.
Once drinking is allowed in State Parks, then we must deal with drunk driving, lewdness, foul language and many other undesirable traits that go along with drunkenness . PLEASE let's keep the bar and the playgroung separate.
Arthur & Barbara Brunty
PO Box 267
Lorado, WV 25630

Tricia Sizemore

From: CarSuby@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:22 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: family friendly alcohol @ park

I would not like to see alcohol allowed in the parks for any reason, due to the fact that some of the social drinkers do not know when to stop. My family, friends and church visit Chief Logan Park frequently throughout the year and would not like to see the park abused by beer cans, etc., or smell the odor of alcohol there, or on visitors in the park as well as the possibility of unseemly behavior. Thank you

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ruth Martin [rmartin@mountain.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 9:58 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

To whom it may concern,

I am not in favor of allowing beer, wine, liquor, or any alcoholic beverages for functions at our state park facilities.

Ruth Martin

Tricia Sizemore

From: DARRELL WAUGH [dew38@msn.com]
`ent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:26 PM
ſo: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in parks

I can't imagine anything worse in our state parks than exposing young people to the drunks that will result from allowing alcohol in our parks. If that wasn't plain enough - I'm Very Much opposed to allowing alcohol in the state parks.

Darrell E. Waugh
138 Camden Street
Clarksburg, WV 26301

P.S. My wife Betty agrees with me but doesn't use e-mail.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mmmandsam@aol.com

Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:46 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: DO NOT ALLOW DRINKING IN STATE PARKS!

To Whom It may concern:

Please DO NOT allow DRINKING in the State Parks. That is one of the things I have always enjoyed while visiting or staying at a State park, that I did not have to worry about was people drinking. Please reconsider and DO NOT change it to drinking being permitted.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Tricia Sizemore

From: LBJinWV@aol.com

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 12:51 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Cc: LBJinWV@aol.com

Subject: Alcoholic Beverages in WV State Parks

Please do not allow alcoholic beverages at park picnic shelters or other facilities in our WV State Parks.

If we make Mr. Hoy Murphy responsible for all injuries and fatalities caused by these drinking parties maybe he will withdraw his proposal.

Let us improve revenue by enforcing the regulations and laws we have in place today, by issuing tickets and fines to alcohol and drug abuses that occur in our parks daily.

We can never punish law breakers by making them pay for a permit making it legal for them to break a rule, regulation or law.

When we do, we are as guilty as they are.

Sincerely,
Lacy Bishop, JR

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gladys72030@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:12 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: EBnWV@aol.com
Subject: WV State Parks and Alcoholic Beverages

I oppose a rule that would allow the use of alcoholic beverages at any WV State Park, for any occasion, be it special or not. I have seen the results of using alcoholic beverages illegally in our parks. How much worse would it be if it were legal? Decent family people would have to put up with drunks, and worry about their children being injured (or worse) by someone who is impaired by alcohol.
Is the State of WV willing to pay for damages these drunken people cause? Are our State Police going to have to patrol the parks to keep people from driving while impaired by alcohol? I think that any increased revenue would be more than depleted if this is allowed to become a rule.
I would strongly consider not using the park if this rule is passed.

Tricia Sizemore

From: EBnWV@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:56 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcoholic Beverages in State Parks

I think it would be a big mistake to allow alcoholic beverages for any reason in our WV State Parks. Any revenue that it would generate would have to be used to regulate drunk driving and paying for damages that would invariably result from people getting drunk and trashing the facility. What about the safety of all the other people who want to use the park?
I do not want to be exposed to the kind of things that go on when people drink, so I probably won't be using the park if this rule is passed. I don't know how it would be possible to "cater to these other groups that would like to have use of the state parks, where it would not be disturbing to other people in the parks", and not be disturbing to me and my family, and not infringe on my right to a safe decent place to go with my family. I do not want my grandchildren exposed to that lifestyle. PLEASE DO NOT pass this rule.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Earlene Bannister [grandma5624874@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 2:36 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcoholic beverages

I am oppose to allowing alcoholic beverages of any kind in WV STATE PARKS. The parks are suppose to be for families, who could enjoy themselves knowing there is drinking going at the next site? I know it is being brought in now and that should be checked more closely. If they drink and drive and hit a person, who will be taking the blame for that? It could be your child. I will not go back to OUR state parks if you allow alcholic beverages of any kind. If allow to drink in state parks then they will bring in their drugs

JOHN 3:16, GOD BLESS

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Lallance [mrmrsl@meer.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 6:49 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

leave it the way it is keep the booze out

Tricia Sizemore

From: mim02@charter.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 7:24 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in State Parks

Hi.
I am responding to your proposal in regards to allowing alcohol in our State Parks.

I am against this proposal.

My reasons:
What is going to happen if they use the cabin as a "party location" and damage is occurred? I know some people can have a beer or a glass of wine with their meal but some people can't stop at that.

If your customers wants to drink, let them go to a bar.

I worry enough about being on the road with "drunks" and when I come to the cabins for relaxation, I do not want to worry about them being in the park. Oh yes they will drive thru our State Parks.

When I come to the cabins, I usually have my son (23), daughter (17), nieces and nephews ranging from 4yrs to 16, plus my brother-in-law who is a pastor.

I feel that if I have to worry about alcohol in State Parks, I will seek private cabins that do not allow alcohol on their premises.

Please do not "stoop" this low. They can go to a bar and drink but I can't go to a bar and relax with my family.

Thank you
Brenda Goodall

P.S. My ex-husband was and maybe still is an alcoholic and I had a choice to remove my self from the situation.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sandra Hall [sandrahall46@charter.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:45 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Dear Mz. Sizemore,
I am strongly against allowing alcohol in WV state parks in any way shape or form.
People will say that they are being discriminated against and will then want to be able to bring alcohol into the parks in other areas of our beautiful parks.
Past experience shows us that when you favor one group, it opens us up to so many other problems.
Sandra C. Hall
P.O. Box 120
Cyclone, WV., 24827
304-583-9796

I also would like to add that people have not been given nearly enough time to respond to this. I wonder if in not giving people enough time to respond, is a way of being able to put this pass the people who would be so strongly opposed to it.

Tricia Sizemore

From: DEBBIE BARNETTE [debbiebobby@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:41 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore

Drinking should not be allowed in public parks. I think there are to many kids there to have to worry about DRUNK DRIVERS.. I know that people already sneak alcohol into the park but still if it is made legal it would make it bad on families who like the safe atmosphere it provides for them. Bobby and Debbie Barnette

Sincerely,
Lenora Kenwolf
440 Baker St. Apt. 7
Elkins, WV

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7/29/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: Billie Shearer on behalf of Wildlife Resouces General Mailbox
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:15 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: change rule to allow alcohol at functions

-----Original Message-----
From: Rose Sullivan [mailto:swamprosa@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 4:17 PM
To: Wildlife Resouces General Mailbox
Subject: change rule to allow alcohol at functions

Please change the rules that would allow consumption of alcohol at events at WV Parks. I think the parks would be better served to be able to have more weddings etc. that are often eliminated from the parks due to the rule as it stands.
Thank you ,
Rose Sullivan
PO Box 115
Dailey, WV 26259

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Lysti Looney
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:20 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol at State Parks

Please take charge of this.
Thank you
Lysti

-----Original Message-----
From: John Ross [mailto:johnnieross@verizon.net]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:51 PM
To: Lysti Looney
Subject: Alcohol at State Parks

Frank Jezioro, Director

Please, make sure this is clear to all. State parks is not the place to serve alcohol.
It will be an opening for disaster.

Thank-you,

John & Ada Ross

John & Ada Ross 213 Wells Lock Rd. Elizabeth, WV 26143 Ph. (304) 275 3480
Cell Ph. (304) 494-7174 or e-mail: johnnieross@verizon.net

God Bless and watch over our brave Military men and women. And God Bless America!

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And folks I too am protected by Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior! And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Romans 8:28

Tricia Sizemore

From: Hoy Murphy
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: DNR Decision

-----Original Message-----
From: Betty L. Brown [mailto:bettyb@ovc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:16 AM
To: Hoy Murphy
Subject: DNR Decision

Hello:

According to newspaper reports, the WV DNR wanted to know what the public thinks of allowing alcohol at some private events at state parks. May I take this method of communicating to you my opinion in this matter? I sincerely believe that it would be a mistake to allow alcohol in the state parks. Even for private parties, this would lead to people bringing their drinks into the park and destroy the family atmosphere that we so much appreciate at our state parks and recreation areas. I cannot emphasize enough my concern that you would consider such a move. Please, please, do NOT allow alcohol in our state parks!

Betty L. Brown
1302 27th Street
Vienna, WV 26105
(304) 295-7590

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gloria Fisher [sunshineglo@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in our State Parks

Dear Gentlemen & Ladies

I'm writing to let you know that I'm strongly against alcolhol in our State parks. For I once had a bad ordeal camping with my small child. When some drunks showed up making awful gestures and comments. So we pack up and went to a State camp ground. Thanks for a safe camping ground for the children to play on. I don't want to lose this to alcohol drinking people. Sorry I feel very strongly against this happen.

Thank you the Fisher Family

Smile God Love You! So do we!

Tricia Sizemore

From: Chris Arnold [csa@cwv.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 10:12 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Proposed Alcohol Policy Legislative Rule

John R. Pope Jr.
Chief, Parks and Recreation
Division of Natural Resources
Building 3, Room 714,
State Capitol Complex,
Charleston , WV 25305-0662

I am writing you because I am opposed to a possible rule change to amend the existing rule to give the director the authority to provide written permission to groups who rent certain state park facilities to possess beer, wine, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages for functions not open to the general public. For me a state park is a refuge from other areas that allow alcohol. Here is a link to the accidents related to alcohol. http://www.alcoholalert.com/drunk-driving-statistics-west-virginia.html Although the numbers are going down, a death in someone's family due to an accident of a drunk driver is not worth a few hours of pleasure in a state park. When you make your decision I hope that you think about the safety of your own family. The fewer people on the road driving under the influence of alcohol the better. I know that if alcohol were allowed, business would be better for our state park convention centers but can you put a price on life? I am greatly opposed to this proposal. I look forward to reading your reply and to your decision.

Chris Arnold
1024 Lower White Oak Rd.
Ashford, WV 25009
1-304-836-5035
csa@cwv.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: J Pack [jpack@cebridge.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 10:30 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: No alcoholic beverages!!!

To Whom Can Make A Difference:

Please do not allow any alcoholic beverages of any kind at our state park facilities. Can we not keep something in this state in high standards? It's good for a family to visit a park facility without being subjected to all the hull-a-ba-loo that tags along on the coattails of many who imbibe (loud noise, indecent acts, unruly conduct, unkind and undesired behavior, bad example for children as well as adults, etc., etc.).

It seems that many who are in decision making positions are selling out our beloved state of West Virginia for all the wrong reasons. Money and self-serving reasons seem to be major factors. Who will stand up for decency and doing what is right in God's sight??? Who will take a stand for all the people...the young, the old, the inbetweens...the rich, the poor, the middle class? I vote to keep some peaceful places where the beauty of our West Virginia hills and the joys of spending quality time with family and friends can be experienced without the threat of undesirable interruptions.

If we are honest about the subject of alcohol, we all know there is a lot of negative baggage hidden in those bottles. Families need to be united instead of divided. Let's allow the state of West Virginia to be a positive example that helps keep America Beautiful and West Virginian's Free in the ways that are most important!

Thanks,

Ramona Pack
Rt. 1, Box 155
Beverly, WV 26253
304-636-7599

Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:02 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: drinking at parks

Importance: High

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Donna Kennedy [mailto:nodlsw@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 5:06 PM
To: John Pope
Subject: drinking at parks
Importance: High

My answer is no. How do you like it when you are somewhere, trying to enjoy what like and someome mess it up for you. We do not need this I'm sick to know that the state sees this as something that ios good for the parks, poooooooooooooooeeeeeeeeeee. Not anly that whatif you knew someone was drinking at the park, that you are control and the drunk runs into your family

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Tricia Sizemore

From: John Pope
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:03 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Drinking in state parks

J.R. Pope
Chief, WVSP&F

-----Original Message-----
From: Roger Kennedy [mailto:kennedypco@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2005 10:19 AM
To: John Pope
Subject: Drinking in state parks

Please rethink this, why in the word would anyone want to cause themself more trouble. Your law inforcement shoud be fighting this, because of all the extra problems they will with all those drunks in the parks. No No No No even to weddings or any other occasion. shame shame on those who would even think of such a thing. Keep our parks the way they are. A park goer that enjoys our state parks..... NO NONO NO NO NO!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Tricia Sizemore

From: david dymm [davidngailann@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:31 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in state parks

We are against alcohol of any kind in state parks. We do not care what the event, alcohol has no place in WV state parks.

David Dymm
1334 Goshen Road
Morgantown, WV 26508
304 291-8435
dymm202@yahoo.com

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Tricia Sizemore

From: Ninadee103@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 12:07 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I sincerely hope you will decide against this action.
Delores Stickler
Lesage, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Nicole A. McKeown [nicoleamckeown@wvdhhr.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 12:56 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in parkfacilities

I totally disagree with possessiong alcohol in our state parks. < /DIV>

Allowing this activity, even with special permission, would cause a gre at deal of problems for state parks.

Listed herein are just a few problems:

1. Unconstitutional (giving a "group" permission to pos sess alcohol but not the rest of the public. I bel ieve this to be discrimination);
2 Liability (frivilious lawsuits that the state would have t o pay an attorney to defend. Such as a drunk driver hitting a kid on a bicycle, hitting park entrance gates,etc.);
3. Costs of repairs (After the drunken brawal);
4. Loss of Revenue (Drunks by booze, families spend money); and
5. Decrease in Attendance (Families want to come enjoy our parks, not frequent a party).

These are just a few concerns our Legislator's should have before they even consider passing this law.

Our state parks rank amoung the highest in the U.S.. Why even both er with this issue.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Philip McCane [pjhelps@mail.wvnet.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:00 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in our parks

Do we not have enough alcohol promblems on our roads with drivers and in homes with abuses. I am a recovering alcoholic who believes that are parks should be a place where families can gather to enjoy other family and friends without worrying about someone getting out of control because of their alcohol addiction.

Please keep our parks free of special groups who are only considering there concerns and not those of the family. I am against alcohol beverages being allowed in our state parks.

Philip McCane

Tricia Sizemore

From: ringo poling [ringop@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:02 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcoholic beverages

I think they should not b allowed because to many children visit these parks and its not good for them to b seeing these kink of things

Tricia Sizemore

From: Elizabeth Criddle [elizabethcriddle@wvdhhr.org]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:05 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in parkfacilities

I do not agree with thi s proposal as the WV State parks are some of the few family oriented locatio ns left. There are few places where people can go and not encounter th is why take ahead a place where people can freely go and not encounter peopl e under the influence. Unfortunately, left up to human nature this wou ld cause more problems than benefits.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Brannon, R S [RSBrannon@modjeski.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 1:06 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

I do not support such legislation. Keep it out.

R. Shawn Brannon, PE
Modjeski and Masters, Inc.
Charleston, WV
Phone 304.965.1870
Fax 304.965.1868

Tricia Sizemore

From: tnaiman [tnaiman@citynet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 3:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol usage in State Parks

Dear Ms. Sizemore, It is such a pleasure to visit and/or picnic in our parks without having to contend with drunks. Why would you want to risk this environment for a few dollars.

Sincerely,
Ted Naiman

Tricia Sizemore

From: Carl L goff [cgoff36@charter.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 3:45 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Drinking in State Parks

I vote NO.

Signed. Carl L. Goff

Tricia Sizemore

From: Zack Harold [pray37@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 4:09 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Say "No" to alcohol in our state parks

I am utterly appalled at the proposition to allow alcohol in our state parks. For years West Virginia's state parks have been a safe. wholesome place where families can enjoys God's creation. Allowing alcohol would, I believe, lead to the demise of said parks, because we all have experienced just how inconsiderate inebriated persons can be. I ask that this proposal be dismissed, not only for me but for every person who enjoys West Virginia's state parks. Thank you.

- Zack Harold
120 Bradshaw Branch Rd.
Ashford, WV 25009
(304) 836-8085
pray37@hotmail.com

Tricia Sizemore

From: David Davis [webmaster1@adelphia.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 6:09 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: Proposed Alchohol Policy

I am against it all the way Nothing can justify the use of alcohol no matter what.
It will only be the beginning of much greater problems.
Just reason with me:

1 The damage to public property
2 The damage to the individuals involved
3 The damage to the individuals Not involved
4 The damage to private property
5 Who is going to be responsible if some one leaves one of these parties and kills an innocent person The DNR ready for the law suites

6. Much less but to be considered The clean up after one of the parties. DNR will have to hire extra help.

It might not be open to the public but they will be turned loose on the innocent public after they have had their fill of drinks. I have kids and grandkids out there we do not need more places for drunks to swill their liquor and the Director to give them permission to do so on State property. Then to be allowed on the state roads to kill. Is the Director going to accept the responsibility. Is he going to give a child back their dad, mom, brother sister the list goes on an on.

What are we coming to wake up State, and Public lands should not be used for this.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Donnie [colt45@mikrotec.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Beer

I think the Idea of permitting people to Drink in parks is wrong no matter how you word it some one will be able to go to court and get it in for some other reason if you open the door hard to say what you let in.

Donnie Edwards
Rt. 2 Box 254
Delbarton WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: juneburns@verizon.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:30 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Liquor in State Parks

I understand that allowing liquor in our State Parks is being considered. I do hope this isn't so. Please leave our parks as a safe place for our kids. We need to consider them first of all. Again, I am strongly against having liquor anywhere in our state parks. Thank you, June Burns

Tricia Sizemore

From: R Vandernoot [rvandernoot@frontiernet.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:32 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Generally I am not in favor of alcohol use in State facilities. After working for a number of years in recreation management on the natioal forest, I find some problems in behavior associated with alcohol even though the users were in small groups. Thanks for the chance to comment.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Daisygirldjh@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:46 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Gov. Manchin,

In my opinion, I do not think allowing alcohol in our state parks is a good idea. There are so few places that a family can go and not have to worry about being exposed to people that are drinking. When I take my family to one of our state parks, I appreciate the fact that alcohol is not permitted.

I hope that allowing alcohol in our parks is not allowed to happen. Thank you.

Deborha Hunter

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sarnia77@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 9:59 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

we oppose all alcohol in our state parks. pastor johnny harris of lavalette west virginia

Tricia Sizemore

From: Larry Shamblin [lshamblin@cebridge.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 11:27 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: beer

no beer for anyboby for any reasons.its very nice to go somewhere besides church where you do not have to worry about drunks and drugs.please keep the beer out thanks

Tricia Sizemore

From: lemonlover2004 [lemonlover2004@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 23, 2005 1:53 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: note

'" No No No' " alcohol in parks.Can't smoke in bars but 0K to drink in parks.What a laugh.



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Tricia Sizemore

From: vivian m [vivianm377@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 2:02 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Parks

NO, NO, NO there should NOT be beer etc. in parks. When you think of parks, you think of children and if they see it at home, that should be enough, they shouldn't be subject to it at parks and if it was up to me, it would be taken OUT of our grocery stores for the same reason.
Our children are our future, PROTECT them. Thank you, it felt good to tell someone how I feel.
Vivian

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Tricia Sizemore

From: CATHY ALLEN [r.c.allen@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 5:33 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

I'm very much against the proposal to allow alcohol in the State Parks. I know at restaurants it is already allowed. I use to work at Pipestem for the food services. Most of the people that came there were park guest and stayed in the facilities on the park after using alcoholic beverages.
If this is opened up to the general public to have their big "drinking parties" (weddings are a good excuse to get drunk) the can of worms will be open for everything.
When the "special events" are allowed to consume, there is still children playing in the park. After someone has been sloshed they drive off of the park to go home. A child running across the road to get a ball is very common. Put this mixture together and there is tragady.
Leave things as they are and let the children have a reasonably safe place to play.

Please think long and hard before making a foolish decision. Don't let greed bring a ruling of disaster. Everything always falls back to money and bringing revenue into the state. I'm 100% sure the special event permits will have a price tag.

Tricia Sizemore

From: CATHY ALLEN [r.c.allen@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 5:37 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol Beverages on the park

I just sent an email without my name attached about not having alcohol on the parks and the reasons why. My computer locked and I was unable to give my name.

Cathy Allen
PO Box 797
Shady Spring, WV 25918
304-466-5929
also mark a 2nd No vote for my husband
Raymond Allen same address and phone number. He shares my view to leave the parks to the children and not let state greed stand in the way of them having a safe place to play.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Ronald Joe Collins [ronaldjoecollins@enetfirst.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:37 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I vote "No"!
As a 62 year old and as a consumer of alcohol I still vote "No".
We definitely have enough drinking and driving in this State without "the State" seeming to openly encouraging DUI in any way.
The job that our DNR officers have to perform is difficult enough to do without them having to contend with even more "drunks in our State Parks"!
Ronald J. Collins
Junior, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sharon Osborne [sharonrosborne@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 6:58 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

Tricia,
Both my husband and myself feel that alcohol of any sort should not be allowed in any state parks. They should be left for family enjoyment and parents, grandparents should not have to worry that their children are going to be exposed to alcohol on a family camp out or a family picnic.

Sincerely
Sharon and Junior Osborne
Amherstdale, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Lysti Looney
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:00 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: Alcohol in State Parks

Please take charge of this.

Thank you
Lysti

-----Original Message-----
From: Sharon & Lee [mailto:shaleetoo@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 6:20 PM
To: Lysti Looney
Subject: Alcohol in State Parks

Please do not allow alcohol back in the State Parks. I travel frequently and try to stay in nearby state parks on my travels throughout the state. I feel very safe staying at the lodges, knowing that there will not be any drunken brawls or safety issues because of alcohol. I would have to find alternative places to stay if the alcohol ban is lifted.

Thanks

Sharon Kreiling
Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: K McMillan [d-kmcmillan@charter.net]

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:26 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I cannot believe that this is a real consideration. Alcohol consumption can lead to al sorts of problems...these people would probably be driving through the parks, often leads to fights, destructive behavior, etc. What good could possibly come from changing the no alcohol policy? I know... money. Well, you better be willing to accept the costs that might come with this decision.
Thank you for the opportunity to respond.
K McMillan

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:26 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW: our concerns about allowing alcohol in State Parks
Importance: High

-----Original Message-----
From: Karen Smith [mailto:heavenbound_1@citlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 8:21 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject: our concerns about allowing alcohol in State Parks
Importance: High

Attention: John R. Pope, Jr.

We would like to bring it to your attention that we heard on WVVA-television this week that it will be decided whether to allow alcoholic beverages in the State Parks under special circumstances. The report stated that as citizens, we should express our opinions on this matter. I hope this will count instead of mailing it to you.
I would like to express my concerns about this matter. I would like to make it known that we have enough problems with drinking and driving that has ended with loss of life. We don't need alcohol allowed in our state parks as they are places that families get together outdoors for recreation. There are enough places for people who choose to drink alcohol to go to, which still lead to them drinking and driving.
I don't think drinking alcohol should be allowed at all, even for special occassions like weddings, anniversaries, etc. Let's keep our state parks alcohol-free!
Thanks!
The Smith Family
Lewis F. Smith, Jr.
Karen D. Smith
Nathanial I. Smith

7/29/2005

Tricia Sizemore

From: Patty Taylor
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:27 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: FW:

-----Original Message-----
From: Sharon & Lee [mailto:shaleetoo@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2005 6:21 PM
To: parks@westvirginia.com
Subject:

Please do not allow alcohol back in the State Parks. I travel frequently and try to stay in nearby state parks on my travels throughout the state. I feel very safe staying at the lodges, knowing that there will not be any drunken brawls or safety issues because of alcohol. I would have to find alternative places to stay if the alcohol ban is lifted.

Thanks

Sharon Kreiling
Charleston, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: WP6910@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:30 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I DO NOT THINK ALCOHOL SHOULD BE LEGAL IN OUR STATE PARKS. IT WOULD DETER FAMILYS FROM USING THESE FACILITIES, AND INCREASE RISK OF INJURIES OR WORSE TO THE PUBLIC.

WILMA PULICE
BRIDGEPORT,W.V.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Syres, Donna [Dsyres@brmcwv.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:48 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in state parks

I spend much of my time volunteering in Camp Creek State Park as well as other members of my family. My son is also employed as a summer park attendant and loves his job. We have been members and held offices in the Camp Creek State Park Foundation for 4 years. I can only imagine the chaos that allowing alcohol in these state parks would create. State parks are a place where many children play, ride bikes, and enjoy may other summer activities. We feel very safe in our park and do not worry about our childrens safety, with the added concern of drunk drivers or irate drunks in general that would all change. At one time we did frequent a park in Virginia to go horse back riding and camp, because of the alcohol use at that facility we grew afraid for our safety and do not go back. I could go on and on but the question that my mind wants to ask is "Who in this great state of West Virginia could have come up with such an absurd idea".

Sincerely,
Very concerned state park volunteer.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dean Brannen [dbrannen@wv-cis.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:29 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

After reading the facts of the proposal, I still believe that alcohol should not be allowed more access into our parks. If we want to continue to have parks that provide family friendly safe environments, then compromising on this issue is a big mistake. Just because some parks have allowance for alcohol and most park restaurants serve alcohol should not be reason enough to grant more exceptions. Where does it end? Who will provide the additional security needed to ensure those under the influence of alcohol will remain in their "reserved picnic shelter" or "multi-purpose barn?" The last thing we want is intoxicated individuals driving through our parks and wandering around our trails. Where alcohol is allowed it has been proven that common sense dissipates, respect for others and their property fades, and the ability to maintain public decency diminishes. Please carefully consider if this is what you want imposed on the beauty and peacefulness of our state parks.

Thank you,

Dean Brannen

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Tricia Sizemore

From: NORTHMARIONVC@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:37 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I feel this would be a big mistake. I feel safe taking my kids to State Parks to ride bikes, camp, fish, swim. To think that someone could get drunk and hit my child on their bike. If their swimming and someones been drinking, that leads to foul language and fighting. If someone feels the need to have a party that has drinking they should go elsewhere. We frequent State Parks because of the relaxing, clean invironment. Any place that allows drinking isn't safe and clean. People that drink alcoholic beverages tend to not care the shape they leave the invironment in.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Pastor Huckins [monbapch@adelphia.net]

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:49 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

Dear Sirs,
I am against having groups coming into State Parks that can bring in liquor, wine, beer or other alcoholic beverages.
We need a safe place for our families, senior citz, and childrens to walk, play, and be safe. Please put me down as being against any kind of presmission to have groups rent certain state park facilities to possess beer, liquor, or other alcoholic beverages for functins on open to the general public.
Thanks you for your time.
A WV Tax Payer,
Linda Huckins of Monongah, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: gil-co faith pharmacy [gilco@rtol.net]

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 11:22 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities - Lori L. Plummer

I am writing this letter to oppose the proposed change of the rule governing alcoholic beverages in state parks/forests and wildlife management areas. Although I understand the state park system has never had a consistent alcohol beverage rule banning alcohol use throughout the entire park system, I am perplexed that a state adminstration condons and encourages more consumption of alcoholic beverages on state property.

The purpose of this administration should not be to worry about remaining competitive in the market place by encouraging and promoting the consumption of alcoholic beverages. To the contrary, the administration should be more concerned with the safety and welfare of their recreational guests. For us to provide a positive setting where good family values can be practiced, teaching love and respect of our outdoors without the need of alcohol is vital. Just because "the party" is not opened to the general public, does not guarantee the "party attendees" will remain within the confines of their "party area" without disrupting other guests of the park. Nor does this guarantee the safety of other park guests after "the party" when "party attendees" get behind the wheel of a vehicle while being under the influence of lacohol.

It is my firm belief that our parks should be kept alcohol free for all to enjoy.

Sincerely,
Lori L. Plummer

Tricia Sizemore

From: gil-co faith pharmacy [gilco@rtol.net]

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 11:41 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities - Scott Wanstreet

I am writing in regard to the proposed alcohol rule change. Simply stated, I see this as an attempt to enhance a revenue stream that will neither preserve nor promote the integrity of our state parks. The rebutal of course, is that the "alcohol rule change" is only for selected events not opened to the general public. Implementing this rule change, as minor as it may seem, will form a crack in the foundation on which the parks stand upon. Research behind increasing a revenue stream should be direceted toward activities for families and children, not toward the misconception that it is appropriate to drink on state property.

Who "loses" in the event that a group who rents a park facility becomes disorderly? The park...No. They have recieved their monitary gain. The group...No. They have had their fun at the expense of others. The family who is on a Sunday outing...YES. Their day is disrupted and destroyed, not as much from the group who became disorderly, but at the hand of the Division of Natural Resoures. You see, the DNR has the capability to dismiss this rule change if it so chooses. The "crack in the foundation" is in your hands.

Sincerely,
Scott Wanstreet

Tricia Sizemore

From: dan anger [dananger80@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 1:15 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: No Alcohol should be aloowed in our parks

we feel safe for our families to go to our beatiful parks. Please keep us this way and do not allow alcohol in our parks.

thanks

Dan Ortenzio

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Tricia Sizemore

From: P&A Spriggs [westluke@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 1:35 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: Charles Trump
Subject: Alcohol at State Parks

This is to register our opposition to the plan to allow alcohol at state parks. Allowing alcohol would make them less family friendly. Having visited a large number of state parks and having observed that the entrance roads are not conducive to drivers who may not be in complete control of their faculties thus putting other families at risk.

We understand the objective of the plan i.e. more revenue for the parks thus reducing subsidies now being provided. Our view is that the subsidies are tax dollars from citizens and the return of these dollars to the parks is pay back to those citizens who use the parks.

Bad idea!

Phil and Anne Spriggs
1140 Fairview Dr.
Berkeley Springs, WV 25411

tel: 304-258-5802

Tricia Sizemore

From: Michael Terrance George [mgeorge2@mix.wvu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 2:16 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Cc: jshawver@wv.gov.org
Subject: Drinking Our State Parks

It is my firm belief that we do not need and should not open our parks for any additional consumption of alcohol in any way and or purpose whatsoever.

Secondly, even though as I understand that the DNR is within its purvue toallow a short period of public comment, I think it is morally wrong to do so. I am in the process of putting in writing my thoughts and this time limit is pushing me to get my comments within such a constrained amount of time. This is wrong and any manipulation of the statutes to move this item past the "publics opinion" before it can be expressed will be exposed. I can understand why commercial interest would love for this to happen without such comment. If this is what is happening it needs to be clarified or exposed

Sincerely,
Michael T. George

Tricia Sizemore

From: Barbara Elam [belam3@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 2:20 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

My Husband and myself do not think their should be alcohol in the parks and cabins. These are used by families and drinking could get out of hand. Our children and grandchildren don't need to be around this stuff. A few years back we went to Bluestone park. Their where some people drinking and got very loud and was using language that shouldn't be used around children. They where very loud and was disturbing everyone around them. The Park rangers came and made them leave. The rest of the stay was very enjoyable. So please keep alcohol out of the state parks.

Thank You

The Elam family.

Tricia Sizemore

From: edie licon [mrslicon1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 2:26 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: against alcoholic Beverage

Just wanted to send you this email to let you know that we are against the sell of alcoholic beverages in state parks.

Thank you
Alvie and Evelyn Watts
Edie Licon

Tricia Sizemore

From: brandy black [bumblebee10703@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 3:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol useage in Berkeley Springs State Park WV

Hello, my name is Brandy Hill and I'm a 26 yr old wife and mother and I live on South Washington St , Berkeley Springs, WV. I am young and still like to drink and think that drinking in the parks is an okay idea for adults who can do it responsibly and safely. On the other hand I live near the park, I have 18 and 20 year old step-sons who "hang out" at that park, I know several of their friends some over the age of 21. My step sons and 4 of their friends now rent the upstairs apt here above my husband and I. I know how the young kids are here. Most of the younger 13-20 year olds have friends in their 20s because young adults in this neighborhood are immature they hang with the younger kids and they look up to them, our children upstairs have had alcohol and have had parties because of the easy availability. All they have to do is ask a friend and there they go. These kids "hangout" in the state park, people in my neighborhood could tell you names even of the kids who" hang" in the park, allowing alcohol to be used in the Berkeley Springs State Park would be nothing but a total mess with young kids being able to drink and trust me, they can sneak it well. the point is myself as it is won't go to the park with my young kids because of how the teens and young adults act, let alone my family or someone else's family having to see them intoxicated and underage drinking in the park. It wouldn't set good examples. If you were from here, born and raised, under all the tourism and all that fancy stuff you would know that here, for generations, has been nothing but drugs and booze and poverty, and we as kids have learned it and our parents seen it and learned it and now my children are watching the young adults do it, most kids here are un educated, victims of dysfunctional homes, parents on crack and heroine, poverty, living on public welfare..... all I'm trying to say is we have enough problems here yet to add another way for our young people get drunk and become and be nobodies. If we make it acceptable just for tourism or to bring " comfort" for visitors or whatever the case, then whomever passes this would just be to blame for helping our kids get more hooked and wasted on all these drugs and allowing persons of age to give to minors, such starting the ball rolling..it's nothing for a 15 yr old to be on pot, drink and pop pills, and try crack!!! That's normal here. And I know, I live around it and in it everyday. We need to get this junkie town cleaned up!! NO ALCOHOL AT BERKELEY SPRINGS STATE PARK< WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: Michael Terrance George [mgeorge2@mix.wvu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 3:31 PM
To: jshawver@wv.gov.org
Cc: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Drinking by permit or otherwise in the WV State Park Syste



Alcohol in the parks letter to...

Dear Jeff,

As I mentioned, I would let you know of my correspondence concerning the above matter. I will use this letter as an add on to other email.

Again, thank you for your courtesy and give my best to Joe.

Mike George

Tricia Sizemore

From: Jarvisbunch@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 4:01 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I cannot believe that you are considering taking the one descent place that we can take our families for fun and relaxation and making it less safe and exposing our children to people under the influence of alcohol. Campsites are inexpensive. And just as they are great for families with a lot of kids and or of lower income. So are they attractive to those who want to party. Please reconsider what you are trying to take away from this state and its descent people.

Roger Jarvis

Please don't give crime a boost in our state parks. Keep them safe and family friendly. Have you considered the cost of more vandilism and distruction to property.

Tricia Sizemore

From: D. Keith "Beck" Beckner [kbeckner@adelphia.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 4:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am apposed to allowing alcohol of any kind in our Park Facilities.

Dorman K. Beckner
65 Nichols Drive
Fairmont, WV 26554
kbeckner@adelphia.net

Tricia Sizemore

From: LlJaKouns@aol.com

Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 4:19 PM

To: Tricia Sizemore

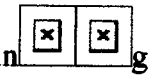
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

As a Christian family with kids and grandkids, we think alcohol SHOULD NOT be allowed in any state park for any reason. We enjoy the state parks and want them to stay safe. If alcohol is allowed, there will be more problems of drunk drivers and in the parks where there is a lot of children, this would be very dangerous. This would certainly deter us from going to state parks. There are a lot of other places for drinkers to go. Keep our state parks clean and safe.

The Lloyd Kouns family

Tricia Sizemore

From: CATHY ALLEN [r.c.allen@citynet.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 5:10 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol on Parks

I'm sendin  g a list of names from my friends that also would like to see the ruling fail. We don't want alcohol to groups on state park facilities.

Tricia Sizemore

From: Dale Parker [daleparker@webtv.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 5:40 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Alcohol at state parks

Dear Mr. Pope

I do not think our beautiful state parks need alcohol drinks of any form to survive. If revenue is needed, I would much more welcome a small toll for each car entering. Thank you for asking our thoughts on it.

Dale Parker
West Logan, WV

Tricia Sizemore

From: mrbyoda@netscape.com
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 6:04 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: no alcohol in state park facilities

Dear John R. Pope Jr.,

I want to register my view that alcohol should not be allowed in any state park facility, whether or not the event is open to the public.

1) alcohol is not a valid source or producer of fun at any event. If alcohol is required for fun, then the event is poorly planned or organized by people who lack creativity.

2) alcohol reduces or removes what would be considered a wise sense of self-control. The effects of this lack of control is rarely limited to the individuals drinking.

3) Parks are one of the few places where families can go and know that there will be no drunken behavior displayed in front of their children. If people want to drink, let them express that freedom in their homes, bars, and restaurants. The park must be protected for family fun that is absent from the potentially negative consequences of alcohol.

4) Although I choose not to drink so that I will not cause any of my church members who struggle with alcohol to stumble, drinking in and of itself is not morally wrong. So my arguments against allowing alcohol in parks is based soley on the negative social consequences, not on any preconcieved notion that alcohol is evil. Alcohol is not in and of itself bad. Allowing anything, including alcohol, to control us is, however, wrong. We do not need to open up our state parks to this potentially harmful abuse.

Very sincerely,

Dr. James H. Boyd III, Associate pastor

First Baptist Church, Princeton

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Tricia Sizemore

From: philjblj@frontiernet.net
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 7:31 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: Parks

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am totally against serving alcohol in WV State Parks. This would expose children and teenagers to drinking and drunk drivers. Parks should be a place where you can take your entire family for good clean fun.

Regards,
Linda Phillips

Tricia Sizemore

From: Rex/JoAnn [rjlayfield@zoominternet.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 9:48 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am not for alcohol in state parks. thanks

Tricia Sizemore

From: NCarte54@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:05 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: state parks

MS. SIZEMORE,
I AM WRITING IN REGARDS TO THE ISSUE OF ALLOWING ALCOHOL IN OUR STATE PARKS. I AM MOST CERTAINLY OPPOSED TO THIS. OUR STATE PARKS HAVE PROVIDED GREAT PLACES FOR FAMILIES TO GATHER AND ALLOW THEIR CHILDREN TO ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL STATE. PLEASE DO NOT RUIN THIS WONDERFUL PART OF OUR STATE. NO ALCOHOL IN OUR STATE PARKS!
NANCY CARTE

Tricia Sizemore

From: Randy Moran [BrkvilleChf1@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2005 10:17 PM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: RE: Changing legislative rule concerning allowing alcohol in WV State Parks

I am writing this to voice my feelings about ALCOHOL in WV State Parks.I believe that ALCOHOL should not be allowed in our State Parks.These are places you can take your Family to enjoy the beauty of our State,and even in a controlled manner drinking would be a problem. I pray our lawmakers will do the right thing and not allowed this to happen

Thank You
Randy Moran
Chief Barrackville VFD

Tricia Sizemore

From: Sherrypuccio@aol.com

Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 5:59 AM

To: Tricia Sizemore

Subject: I have a comment on groups possessing alcohol in park facilities

I am writing in reply to alcohol being aloud in our state parks. We have so little to offer our young children in todays world that is not mared by public diplays of intoxication, vulgarity, or violence. Please help us ban the use of alcohol in our parks. Let this be a place for families to take their children and not be afraid of them being exposed to these types of things because some individual has had to much to drink. Our parks are truly a gift from God. Let them be a safe haven for families and individuals looking for a little peice of heaven.Thank you for letting my voice count.

Sincerely,
Sherry E. Puccio

Tricia Sizemore

From: Mdstiltner@aol.com
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 8:16 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: comment on allowing alcohol at state parks

Heard rumor that the DNR is considering allowing alcohol at state parks and just want to give my thoughts. I'm assuming it won't be sold at the parks so there's no revenue involved. I know litter is an issue anyway, so it seems this would only increase that problem. People in the hot sun (i.e., lakes) and alcohol certainly do not mix. My family spends a lot of weekends on our boat, and this concerns me. However I do live within 1-1/2 hours from a KY State park lake, and it doesn't allow alcohol. They actually have police patrolling the lake and issue tickets for drinking and other offenses. Safety should be the first concern. I can't think of any positives from this.

michele <><

Tricia Sizemore

From: Gary Ellis [gellis@lbandt.com]
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2005 7:40 AM
To: Tricia Sizemore
Subject: alcohol in State Parks

I do not like the idea of alcohol, in any form, to be permitted in our State parks. These are family areas that a person can feel they can go and not be bothered by drunkenness and alcohol. I am sure someone has some ulterior motive to even suggest such a thing. Who knows? Maybe gambling next? Let's keep our parks and recreational areas for everyone to use in a safe, clean, and family-oriented atmosphere.