

## Ralph J. Andrews Park Proposed Fee Changes

Ralph J. Andrews (RJA) Park / Campground is located on Lake Glenville and offers approximately 37 campsites ranging from primitive to full hook up. The park employs 2 year round full time staff members, a manager and assistant manager and one part time or intern staff through the summer. During the summer months there is a staff member at the park 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Amenities offered by the park:

- 2 shower houses
- 2 restroom buildings without showers
- Playground
- Picnic Shelter
- Playhouse
- 1 mile of unimproved lake shore

It is proposed to increase the camping rates at RJA effective for the 2015 camping season to be marketed beginning in early 2014. Please see Chart A for current and proposed fees.

There is no record of the last rate increase and staff within the Parks and Recreation Department attest that there has not been an increase in at least the last ten years. The following are justifications for the proposed rate increase. Based on 2014 occupancy rate the proposed rate would increase RJA income by \$3687.00.

- **Consistency with industry standards:** As shown in Chart B below, the current fees are well below other campgrounds in the area offering camping. While amenities at said campgrounds vary the proposed fees will allow RJA to still offer affordable camping while working to become more aligned with industry fees. A value is created by the fee visitors pay, increasing fees will increase the value placed on the facility.
- **Major renovations of the electrical system** are currently taking place, upgrading all guest power hook ups from 30amps to 50amps. This will allow RV's and campers to run additional appliances without stressing the system and is in line with industry standards.
- **Creation of a Group Site:** The addition of a group campsite will allow schools, scouts, churches, and other groups to camp in an area all together without compromising other visitor's experiences. The proposed fee for this site is double that of single campsite and would accommodate 20 people (regular sites will accommodate 8 people)

As the demand for natural recreational spaces increases in Jackson County the following are projects that the Parks and Recreation Department would like to pursue at RJA:

- Ralph J. Andrews Master Plan
- Multiuse recreational trails
- Disc Golf Course
- Site improvements including leveling sites, improving site drainage, and expanding sites to allow for larger RV's.
- Addition of interpretive signage about the local area and environment
- Addition of group lodging such as screen cabins or yurts
- Improvement of the access road to beach area
- Shoreline improvements including clustering of fallen trees in the lake and improvements at beach areas

Fee increases are necessary to aid in the funding of potential projects and will also be warranted with the addition of amenities.

**Chart A. Proposed Increase:**

<b>Site Type</b>	<b>Current Rate</b> In county / Out of County	<b>Proposed Rate</b> (to begin in 2015)
<b>Primitive</b>		
Daily	\$10 / \$12	\$13 / \$15
Weekly	\$60 / \$72	\$78 / \$90
2 Weeks	\$120 / \$144	\$156 / \$180
<b>Power and Water Hook Up</b>		
Daily	\$12 / \$14	\$15 / \$17
Weekly	\$72 / \$84	\$90 / \$102
2 Weeks	\$144 / \$168	\$180 / \$204
<b>Full Hook Up</b>		
Daily	\$14 / \$16	\$17 / \$19
Weekly	\$84 / \$96	\$102 / \$114
2 Weeks	\$168 / \$192	\$204 / \$228
<b>Group Site</b> (maximum 20pp)	\$10 / \$12	\$26
<b>Shelter</b>	\$20	\$20

## Chart B Rate Comparison

Comparison of Campground Rates			
	Tents	RV / Trailer	Notes
<b>Adventure Trail</b>	\$25.00	\$35.00	rates for 4 people,
Jackson County NC			\$3/pp/pn for extra people
Private			
<b>Moonshine Creek</b>	\$28.00 (power and water)	\$34.00	
Jackson County NC			
Private			
<b>Ft Wilderness</b>	\$25.00	\$40.00	
Jackson County NC			
Private			
<b>Cataloochee Campground</b>	\$20.00	N/A	
SMNP			
National Park			
<b>Deep Creek</b>	\$17.00	N/A	No reservations
SMNP			
National Park			
<b>Davidson River</b>	\$22.00	\$22.00	Group Site: \$44
Brevard NC			Sites: Max 8 people
National Forest			
<b>VanHook Glade</b>	\$16.00	N/A	
Highlands NC			
Forest Service			
<b>Briar Bottom</b>	Group Site: \$65.00		
Burnsville NC			
Forest Service			
<b>Arrowhead Campground</b>	\$15.00	\$30.00	
East Troy NC			
National Forest			
<b>Bandits Roost</b>	\$18.00	\$24.00	
Wilkesboro NC			
State Park			