The Legend of Hungry Mother

The legend of Hungry Mother takes many forms, but the one generally accepted in southwest Virginia has the earmarks of the truth. The legend has it that when Indians destroyed several settlements along the New River south of the park, Molly Marley and her small child were among the survivors taken to the raiders' base north of the park. Molly and her child eventually escaped, wandering through the wilderness eating berries. Molly finally collapsed and her child wandered down a creek until she found help. The only words the child could utter were "Hungry Mother." When the search party arrived at the foot of the mountain where she had collapsed, they found Molly dead. Today, that mountain is Molly's Knob and the stream Hungry Mother Creek. When the park was developed in the 1930s, the creek was dammed to form Hungry Mother Lake.

While at Hungry Mother

We hope you take the opportunity to visit some of the other attractions in the area of interest to the outdoor enthusiast. About an hour south of the park is the Mount Rogers Recreation Area and Grayson Highlands State Park. Both offer ample opportunity to explore the alpine beauty of Virginia's highest mountain range. Grayson Highlands also offers a visitor center highlighting the bygone lifestyle of the men and women pioneers who settled these mountains.

Just minutes from the park, the town of Marion offers a wide variety of services to our guests including a post office, pharmacies and a variety of stores.

Overnight Rules

- Overnight visitors must inform park staff of the names of visitors expected to arrive at the campsite or cabin area. Visitors will not be admitted to camping and cabin areas unless so identified. Visitors are permitted between 8 a.m. and 10 p.m.
- Pets are allowed in state park campgrounds and cabins. A fee will be charged per pet/night.
- The public use or display of alcoholic beverages is prohibited. Public intoxication and/or disorderly conduct will not be tolerated.

Campground Rules

- Camping is allowed only in designated campgrounds and only after following the proper check-in procedure. Parks allowing payment for site after set-up will have appropriate information posted.
- Registration for a state park campsite must be completed by a member of the camping party 18 years of age or older. This person accepts responsibility for the remainder of the camping party.
- Campsites are designed to be used by a maximum of six people or one family.
- One motor vehicle, in addition to the camping unit, is permitted per site. Only the camping unit listed on the campsite application is permitted.
- State park campgrounds are intended for the use of the traveling public and not for extended or seasonal camping. The maximum camping stay per park is 14 days in any 30-day period.
- Check-out time is 4 p.m. No camping units, vehicles or personal property may be left or allowed to remain on site after the termination of the permitted camping period.
- Quiet hours posted in all state park campgrounds must be observed.
- Fires must be confined to campgrills, campstoves or designated fire rings.
- Laundry sinks provided are to be used only for washing clothes.

Cabin Rules

- State park cabins are rented on a weekly and daily basis. Maximum cabin rental is two consecutive weeks. Those cabins not reserved on a weekly basis may be rented at a nightly rate for a minimum of two nights. Nightly cabin reservations may be made through the Virginia State Parks Reservation center no earlier than one month in advance of intended stay.
- Occupancy per cabin is as follows:
  - One room: 2 people
  - One bedroom: 2 people
  - Two bedrooms: 4 people
  - Guest lodge: 18 people

  Up to two additional beds are available for rental for one and two bedroom cabins.
- Two vehicles per cabin are permitted and must be parked in the designated parking spaces. Additional vehicles must be parked in the designated parking lots.

Frequent Visitors Save Money

Annual passes for parking and swimming offer the frequent visitor greater savings. Stop by the park office for details.

Virginia State Parks Reservation Center

To receive more information on Virginia State Parks or to make a cabin or campsite reservation, call **1-800-933-PARK** (or in the Richmond calling area 225-3867).

Join Us in the Parks – DCR's Volunteer Program

DCR offers diverse opportunities for volunteers in most state parks and natural areas throughout the state. Inquire at the park office for details.

For more information, contact:
Hungry Mother State Park
2854 Park Blvd.
Marion, Virginia 24354
(540) 783-3422
You can also visit our home page at
http://www.state.va.us/-dcr/

DCR
Department of Conservation & Recreation
CONSERVING VIRGINIA'S NATURAL AND RECREATIONAL RESOURCES

203 Governor St., Suite 302
Richmond, Virginia 23219
(804) 786-1712 (TDD 804/786-2121)

James S. Gilmore, III, Governor

VIRGINIA
STATE PARKS

Hungry Mother State Park Guide

Marion, Virginia

Virginia State Parks provide "A Natural Legacy" of outdoor activities and programs. They are an important part of DCR's efforts to promote a strong conservation ethic. These efforts ensure that the best of Virginia's natural resources will be protected and available for future generations.

Welcome to Hungry Mother State Park. Its wooded campsites, vacation cabins and forest trails have long made it a favorite outdoor retreat for residents and visitors of southwest Virginia. Horseback riding, boat rentals, swimming, the gift shop and the park restaurant are available seasonally.

Public use or display of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

Pets are permitted in all state parks. They must be kept at all times in an enclosed area or on a leash, not to exceed six feet. No pets are permitted in bathing areas or toilet facilities. Pet fees apply for pets kept in overnight facilities.

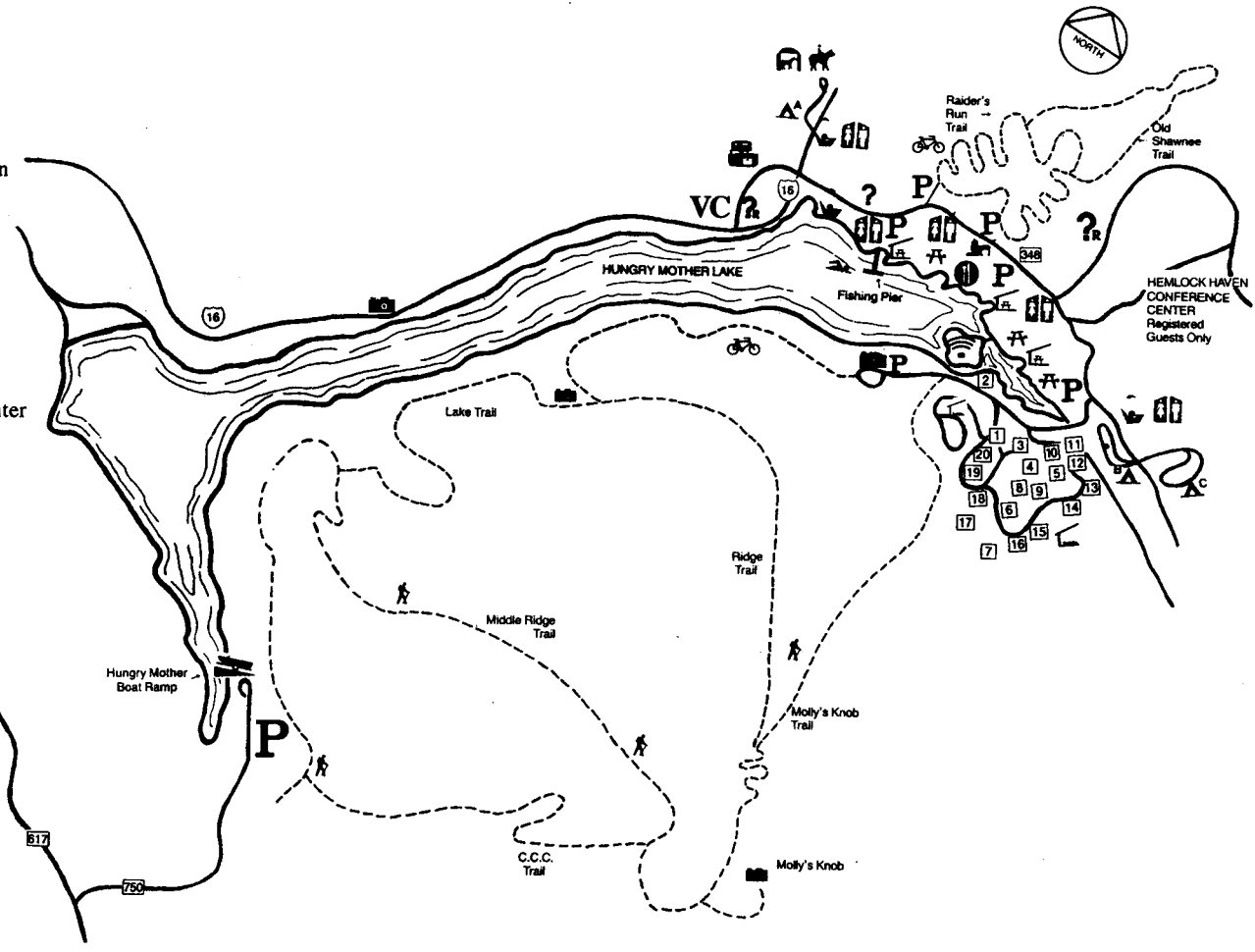
Hiking trails are for pedestrians only. Bicycles are permitted only on the Lake and Raiders Run Trails. No motorized vehicles are permitted on state park trails.

Help preserve your park. Please don't cut or mar any plants or trees. Collecting animal or plant life is allowed only for scientific purposes by permit from the Richmond headquarters.

Color coding and mileage for the trails at Hungry Mother State Park.

MILE	TRAIL	COLOR
1.6	Molly's Knob	White
2.7	Lake	Navy Blue
.7	Ridge	Gold
1.1	Middle Ridge	Yellow
1.0	C.C.C.	Orange
.9	Old Shawnee	Green
.9	Raider's Run	Royal Blue

Amphitheater
Boat Ramp
Cabins
Campground
Dumping Station
Hiking Trail
Horse Trail
Bicycle Trail
Information & Reservation Center
Parking
Picnic Area
Picnic Shelter
Restaurant
Restrooms
Scenic Point
Shower
Stable
Store
Swimming
VC Visitor Center/ Office/Store



5/98