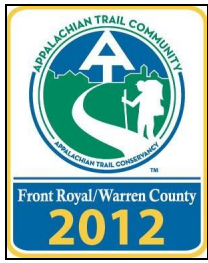


Overlook/Hemlock Hollow Trail Quest

Shenandoah River State Park

Created by Madison, Nathan, and Cindy Courtney.



Quest Shenandoah is a program of the Front Royal/Warren County Appalachian Trail Community™ program. Front Royal/Warren County is a proud host of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail and was designated an Appalachian Trail Community on April 21, 2012. Find other Quests, and guidelines for designing a Quest of your own at www.discoverfrontroyal.com. Complete three or more Quests and win one of the special edition patches (pictured left).

From Front Royal: Starting from Front Royal Visitors Center, turn right (west) onto Main Street. Follow to traffic light at Royal Avenue and turn left. Royal Avenue will become US 340 South. Follow 340 South 7.9 miles to Shenandoah River Raymond R. “Andy” Guest, Jr. State Park entrance on right. Clues start here.

Time: 1 hour; **Distance:** 1.2 miles roundtrip; **Difficulty:** Moderate easy. **What you need:** A pen, park map (you can get this at the park entry gate). **Fee:** Weekdays: \$3.00; Weekends: \$4.00.

A right off 340 - At Andy Guest
Onto Daughter of Stars - For your Quest.

At the top of the hill you will see
A booth to stop at and a ranger to pay your fee.

Ask the ranger what word means “Daughter of the Stars”:

A map you will acquire
With rules and regulations
To preserve the land
For human and animal populations.

Take only _____, leave only _____
(Hint: Found on back of map.)

On to Culler’s parking
To leave your car.
Get ready to go hiking –
It’s not that far.

Grab your gear,
Let’s go,
But first read the notice board
For things you should know.

(Did you know...at one time there was talk of putting a
waste transfer facility in the vicinity?)
Adhere to what is said on the sign
‘cause you don’t want to be
A patient with _____
(Hint: an illness caused by ticks)

Now to your right
Overlook Trail you will spy
This is what
We shall walk by.

How can this trail be used? _____
(Hint: Look on map legend.)

At the junction
Straight ahead
Toward the treasures
This park has kept.

Look high, look low.
There is so much
To be found
In the valley below.

There are squirrels and flowers
That you will find,
Butterflies and mushrooms
Of all kinds.

(Did you know...that squirrels will eat mushrooms?)

There are scratch marks and holes
On many trees.
Can you guess what makes them?
How hard can that be?

(If you see a black prickly caterpillar, **do not touch!**)

Holes are from what? _____
(Hint: hard-pecking bird)
Scratch marks are from what?
(Hint: big, black, hairy!)

(If you see a bear, **do not run!** Back away slowly.)

Listen to your left,
What do you hear? _____
You may be able to see it
When trees are clear.

Just a little longer
And you'll be at a Y intersection.
Take a moment, if you want,
For reflection.

Take a right
To the Visitors Center.
Pause a moment
Before you enter.

Walk across
The square of stones,
And look upon
The swimmers lone.

What do you see swimming? _____

Listen to the calming sound
Of the Shenandoah water garden round.

How many rapids can you count? _____
Are there any flowers blooming?

Go inside and do not hide.
The Park Ranger's there to be a guide.

(Take a look around the Visitors Center if you like.)

If they're there,
Just say hi,
Then back to the trail
To fly.

Go right
At Hemlock Hollow Trail. (Y intersection)
Now don't dilly-dally
Or you'll fail!

Down, down, down
You will travel.
Watch your step!
There's lots of gravel.

Cross the bridge
Where mountains part.
Look all around
The beautiful park.

(Did you know...inmates from White Post Correctional Center built the original bridges with hand-cut trees from this forest?)

What kind of plants
Do you see?
Majestic pine and

_____ trees.
(Hint: the name of this hollow)

Skip across the second bridge:
The treasure box will be
Not high but low
Below your knee.*

There's one more treasure,
It's a feast,
So please don't skip it
In the least:

Retrace your steps
To the Culler's parking lot.
Proceed to the Culler's
Overlook spot.

(Keep your eyes open for camouflaged lizards in the sun along the way back.)

Behold the beauty
Of our valley,
And this time,
You may dilly-dally.

How many bends can you count? _____
Are there any rafts or canoes on the Shenandoah?

With the change of seasons
The treasures, too, change,
So that's one big reason
To visit again!

***COVID OPTION OR BOX MISSING:**
In time of COVID, treasure boxes are removed
Yet treasure can be found for those that are shrewd
Instead of a stamp, it is a color you seek
Figure out the clue and follow your feet
To the store Mountain Trails located on Main Street
Submit your proof and receive a patch to wear for all to see!**

**On your way back at the Visitor Center pond do stop,
Choose the one color of the occupants that pop!**

**For the creative quester or those with difficulty discerning colors, you may take a photo of you/your group or your mascot (surprise us) at the site of the final clue.