

Projectoree 2018 – Directions to Camp Wilson

It is strongly recommended that you leave Arlington/McLean by no later than 5:15pm - and please remember, Registration ends at 8:00pm and the PLC starts at 8:30 pm!

Listen to WTOP (FM-103.5) for traffic updates, every 10 minutes “on the 8’s” (5:08, 5:18, etc.) If I-395 or I-95 South or the HOV lanes have major accidents, consider using an alternate route.

Remember that you now must have an EZ-Pass or EZ-Pass Flex to use the Express Lanes (former HOV lanes) in Fairfax County, and that you must have the EZ-Pass-Flex properly set to reflect the number of people in the vehicle. You must also still maintain HOV-3 to use 395 in Arlington County, or the Express lanes on 495, if you wish to come via either of those routes.

If you use the main line of I-395/I-95 to get to Lorton, proceed as follows:

- 1) Take I-395 South/I-95 South all the way to the Lorton Exit (Exit 163). **You can use the 495 or the 495 Express (HOT) lanes to get to 95 South, if preferred. These are easily accessed via 66 West.**
- 2) At the end of the Exit 163 ramp, come to a stop-sign; TURN LEFT ONTO LORTON ROAD. You will pass under I-95 and the railroad bridge.
- 3) About 100 yards after the railroad bridge, take a right on Lorton Market St/VA-600. Proceed to a stop sign, and continue straight. The road curves to the left, and its name briefly changes to Gunston Cove Road. At Rt. 1, there will be a stoplight.
- 4) Continue Straight Across Rt 1 and continue on (the now named) Gunston Road.
- 5) Proceed exactly 1.8 miles down Gunston Rd.; when you see several small, yellow signs on the right shoulder for a Fire/Rescue Squad, slow down. You should see a large Projectoree sign with a left arrow. **TURN LEFT ONTO THE DIRT ROAD JUST BEFORE FIRE/RESCUE STATION** (Note that Road is outlined by 2 old stone sentinel/signposts, one of which has a brown “Camp Wilson” sign. **There may be road construction alongside Gunston Road, so be careful to identify the turn.** If you pass the Fire/Rescue Station (just past the entrance road on the left), you went 200 yards too far!
- 6) Proceed 100 yards to entrance gate, and through the gate and into the camp, turning right to pass the main field. Drive SLOW (10 mph), and if the area is very dry shut your windows to reduce dust intake.
- 7) A Registration Point will be set up in the field to your right (good weather) as you enter the camp - stop and register with the Registrar/Treasurer, and get a map to your Campsite. [The Registrar will be inside the Comfort Station (on the left, at the end of the field) if the weather is uncooperative.]

If you use the HOV lanes to get to Rt. 1 / Woodbridge, proceed as follows:

Reminders: This route is for Friday afternoon when rush hour rules are in effect, and uses the HOV-3 Lanes in Arlington. You must ensure that all vehicles have a minimum of 3 people (2 passengers in addition to the driver!) You do not need 3 people in your vehicle when you reach Fairfax County, but you **MUST** have a properly set EZ-Pass-Flex from that point on.

Preliminary Note: The HOV lanes can be accessed either from the G.W. Parkway or from 66 East/Rt. 110 South. I would personally avoid the G.W. Parkway because the area under Key Bridge is usually a complete standstill on Friday afternoons from folks trying to exit to the Bridge and get into Georgetown, but that's up to you. You can also use the Beltway Express Lanes to pick up 95 South, and there's an exit to join onto the 95 South Express Lanes after exiting the 495 Express Lanes (but unfortunately it's not a direct merge, and it is often very slow here). It's your choice - whatever works. These directions take you down the 66 East/Rt. 110 South option, which is usually fairly clear even on the busiest Fridays. **Troops in central and South Arlington should get to 395 by the most convenient route, then access the HOV lanes at the Edsall Road entrance point.**

- 1) Take 66 East or Old Dominion Drive/Lee Highway inbound to the T.R. Bridge
- 2) Just before the T.R. Bridge, take the right-hand lane exit to Rt 110 South (Exit 75)
- 3) Take 110 S to the "395 South/to Washington Boulevard/to Colombia Pike" exit just after you pass Arlington Cemetery. Take that exit, which becomes an entrance ramp for 395 South – look for the HOV-3 lanes *on the left* just as you get onto the entrance ramp. Watch out for crazed speeders as you cross over to the left, who insist on driving 85 mph to get to the first backup 20 seconds sooner.
- 4) **There is no longer a Lorton exit off the HOV lanes** – you must continue to the Woodbridge Exit (i.e., Rt 1 South into Woodbridge). There are no good turnaround points immediately off the exit, so continue south until you find a good turnaround point. [If interested in a fast-food dinner, continue into Woodbridge, turn right at Rt 123 (traffic light) and then into the strip mall area, which has a McDonalds, a Roy Rogers, a Taco Bell, a LUMS, and this year maybe more; the area is growing rapidly, and there are plenty of options.] It is easy to turn around in the mall parking lots.
- 5) Once you get turned around, proceed on Rt. 1 North to Gunston Rd. (be careful to stay on Rt. 1 as it re-crosses 95). **Watch for the brown signs for several Parks**, and look for the Gas Station on your right marking the right-hand turn onto Gunston Road as you approach from the South. Stay in the right hand lane on Rt 1 North, to avoid missing this turn. There is a traffic light at this intersection.
- 6) Turn right onto Gunston Road.
- 7) Proceed exactly 1.8 miles down Gunston Rd.; when you see several small, yellow signs on the right shoulder for a Fire/Rescue Squad, slow down. You should see a large Projectoree sign with a left arrow. **TURN LEFT ONTO THE DIRT ROAD JUST BEFORE FIRE/RESCUE STATION** (Note that Road is outlined by 2 old stone sentinel/signposts, one of which has a brown "Camp Wilson" sign; there's also a white mailbox at the entrance. **There may be road construction alongside Gunston Road, so be careful to identify the turn.** If you pass the Fire/Rescue Station (just past the entrance road on the left), you went 200 yards too far!
- 6) Proceed 100 yards to entrance gate, and through the gate and into the camp, turning right to pass the main field. Drive SLOW (10 mph), and if the area is very dry shut your windows to reduce dust intake.
- 7) A Registration Point will be set up in the field to your right (good weather) as you enter the camp - stop and register with the Registrar/Treasurer, and get a map to your Campsite. [The Registrar will be located inside the Comfort Station (on the left, at the end of the field) if the weather is uncooperative.]

-END-