

The Bear 2018

Packet Pickup

We will have packet pickup on two days the week of the race. Wednesday, July 11th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm under the West Side stands in Kidd Brewer Stadium. We will have packet pickup at the race site in Linville from 5:00pm until 6:30pm on Thursday, July 12th. Race begins at 7:00pm. If we get a lot of pre-race rain, the area normally used for standing prior to race might be swamped. Do not stand on the road, find whatever area you can.

Parking Information

We will be starting at the Linville intersection of Hwy 105 and Hwy 221. The packet pickup tent will be located there as well. We have been asked to try and organize the parking so that some of the business at the corner will not lose their customer parking from 5:00 pm to 9:00pm. SO...there is a map attached to this email that will give you some idea of what we will be explaining below.

Those Who Have Their Packets and Gate Pass (picked them up Wednesday night)

Please do not park in the lot around the Post Office. Any other area (drop off area across the street for example) is where you can drop off your runner/runners and then proceed to the Grandfather Gate at 6:00pm. Therefore, you need not arrive sooner than 5:50pm since you will be going to the Grandfather Gate anyway. You will not be allowed to enter until 6:00pm, if you get there too early the Highway Patrol will ask you to move.

Those Who Need to Pick Up Your Packet and Gate Pass

Please go to the drop off area or any other area except the Post Office parking lot. Let your runner/runners go get their packet and Grandfather Gate Pass for you and then leave as soon as you can for the Grandfather Gate. Therefore, you need not come prior to 5:30 since we have six packet pickup alphabetical areas and it will be a quick packet pickup and parking pass pickup. Grandfather will not allow you to enter with the Gate Pass until 6:00pm and we can not have a line of cars blocking the road to Grandfather.

Those That Need to Park for the Duration of the Race at the Start and Will Be Shuttled Back

You need to park your car in the Post Office parking area in an organized way. There will be officials to direct you. Since we have a quick packet pickup, you need not come prior to 6:00 pm for a 7:00pm start.

This has become a major issue and could terminate the run if we can not organize this part of the race. Please do not park in front of businesses, restaurants, etc. Also, very important if you find yourself on one of the side streets, be careful how you park. Do not block any access route or other cars.

DO NOT PARK IN THE ESSEOLA CLUB HOUSE PARKING AREA or the STREETS AROUND THE ESSEOLA CLUB! PLEASE!!!

The Parking Map

If you follow the above requests, the map will make sense. NOTE...there is parking further down at the two churches near the Hampton Store...it is a short walk to the start intersection.

AS LISTED ON OUR GENERAL INFORMATION: THERE IS A PACKET PICKUP FROM 5:00PM TO 7:00PM ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 11TH UNDER THE WEST SIDE STANDS IN KIDD BREWER STADIUM ON THE ASU CAMPUS. SAVE SOME PARKING PROBLEMS AND GET YOUR PACKET AND GATE PASS SO YOU WILL NOT HAVE TO PARK AT THE START LINE AREA AND RELIEVE THE CONGESTION!!!

We will allow someone to pickup your packet on Wednesday night. However, you must give them a copy of your driver's license before we will allow them to pick it up. We have had too many cases where someone has picked up a packet for their friend and their friend did not know they were doing this and it created problems for us

THERE WILL NOT BE A SHUTTLE LEAVING FROM THE START LINE TO GRANDFATHER!

Special Information Spectator Parking - Please Read

Grandfather Mountain will still allow cars with BEAR Gate Passes to enter (free of charge) at 6:00 pm until 7:00 pm. **There will NOT be a shuttle from the start line to the finish line at Grandfather.** You must drive your own car to the Grandfather attraction if you are not parking at the start line during the race. If you are parking your car at the start line area we will provide a shuttle to bring you back to the start after the race is over and the Park Rangers allow us to shuttle people off the mountain.

Absolutely no alcoholic beverages of any kind are permitted in the Grandfather attraction...the Sheriff's Department will be patrolling the finish area as well as the Parking Areas.

**Please Do Not Drive to the Grandfather Entrance
Until 5:50 pm**

Parking will be at the Black Rock parking area and the Nature Museum parking area. We will park "first come, first serve" as you enter the attraction. The race has gotten so big we can no longer accommodate parking for spectators at the top. That area will be for the runner's finish, officials of the race and the shuttle vehicles.

Grandfather Mountain will provide shuttles to the top for spectators from the parking lots indicated above. The shuttles will stop going up the mountain at 7:15 pm and remain at the top. They will not bring anyone down until the last runner has made it to the top. **WE DO NOT HAVE HANDICAPPED PARKING AT THE TOP.**

Anyone not getting on the shuttle will be allowed to view the race from the side of the road nearest their parking lot. Runners are instructed to run on the right side of the road going up.

Spectators and runners will be allowed to walk down the road from the finish area to your parking site (stay to your right as you go down, runners will be coming up on the other side)

Until 8:20 pm only...

no one will be allowed down after 8:20 pm...then no one will be allowed to walk down the road since the shuttles will be moving people down at that time...shuttles will taking people to the parking areas and to the packet pickup tent in Linville after 8:30 pm...

There will be signs to indicate what line you need to be in for the shuttles to the parking areas and the packet pickup tent at the start line. The shuttle vehicles will be directed to those signed areas.

However, you will not be allowed to leave the parking area where your car is parked until the Trailing Vehicle has passed your parking lot and there are no more walkers on the road. You will be instructed by the Park Rangers when you begin leaving once the race is over.