

CAPTAIN WILLIAM CLARK

Washougal Parks Department

REGIONAL PARK



Location:

The main entrance is located at South Index Street and 32nd Street

Amenities:

Picnic shelters, bar-b-q's, picnic tables, benches, paths, restrooms, sandy beach, open grassy spaces, historical features, off-street parking, year-round caretaker.

Recreation Opportunities:

Captain William Clark Park provides a long sandy beach where sunbathers congregate, swimmers play, and small motor boats anchor off shore. The park is designed with ample picnic opportunities; however, access may prove challenging since the shelters and tables are far from parking and further separated by a steep levee.

*The park offers a pleasant sidetrack for outdoor enthusiasts who walk, jog, bike, or horseback ride on the levee trail. Take a moment to read the historical points along the trail.
NO LIFE GUARD ON DUTY.*

History of Captain William Clark Park:

Also known as B.A. Beach and Cottonwood Beach by locals, Clark Park has a rich history. In 1792, Lieutenant William R. Broughton, the first foreign explorer, ascended the Columbia River from the Pacific Ocean on a journey to find the headwaters of the Columbia River. He landed at a point near this park, claimed the Washougal area for England, named Mt. Hood, but went no further upriver. In 1806, Captains William Clark and Meriwether Lewis descended the Columbia River in their famous transcontinental exploration, camping for 6 days to gather supplies at this now namesake park.

To find the full story on these historical events, log on to Clark County's site: http://www.clark.wa.gov/aboutcc/proud_past/index.html

Over the years, residents used this park for drag racing, partying, and other rowdy activities. The 2005 total park makeover by five partnering government jurisdictions reshaped the park into a family friendly environment.

Since this is a regional park, not a city park, contact Clark County for special use permits or shelter reservations. The Washougal Parks Department would happily assist with contact information or additional historical resources.

Washougal possesses the only park in the United States of America that is named in honor of Captain William Clark.

