

US Army Corps of Engineers
Gerald R. Freeman Campground
Sutton, West Virginia



<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233678>



1151 Kanawha Run Road Sutton, WV 26601



phone #(304) 765-2267



We paid \$20 per night with below discount (otherwise \$40 per night)



Discounts/Clubs/Hosts: Senior Pass and Access Pass (Part of the America the Beautiful, the National Parks and Recreation Lands Pass Program)



Facilities: 2 shower houses, flush toilets, trash dumpsters, 2 dump stations, 2 boat launches (closed due to low water levels in Sutton Lake), a snack shack, and marina. Near the marina, there is a trailer at the top of a hill where you can buy firewood or use coin laundry. Firewood was \$10 for a size of a milk crate full. General store.



Amenities: 2 very nice playgrounds, basketball court, cornhole, fishing, boating, horse shoe pits, volleyball courts, and a little library to exchange books (leave a book/take a book). Pontoon boat and boat rentals, boat trailer parking, and swimming.



Pets & Trails: There were 2 trails at opposite ends of the campground. The one near us, in the Black Bear loop, went under a large bridge and you had to walk a good distance on very large rocks that made it unpleasant and scraped up the dogs' paws. Once passed that part it went along the water's edge on one side and a tree lined hill on the other. We didn't walk the other trail. We walked the

dogs through the campground as the other loops were empty and the round trip was a little over 2 miles. Dogs must be on leash. No dog park. No pet waste bag stations.



Sites & Types: 156 campsites: 113 sites have electric hookups, and 37 sites have full hookups (water/electric/sewer), not sure what the 6 remaining sites are. Sites have gravel or concrete pads, treed or open, some waterfront, mostly back-in sites, and they all have firepits & picnic tables. All sites have a lantern post with the site # posted on them. Maximum consecutive stay is 14 nights. Site map available at this link:

<https://www.recreation.gov/camping/campgrounds/233678?tab=campsites>



Check in time is 6PM Check out time is 5PM (not enforced during non-peak season)



Our Site # 53 had an asphalt pad and needed only a small level adjustment left to right. We backed into a beautiful waterfront view of what looked like a non-flowing river but is the headwaters of Sutton Lake. The sites on either side of us were a good distance away.



Our Stay: Monday September 30 – Monday October 7



Cell/Internet/WiFi/Starlink/etc: Very poor to no cell service. We used Starlink and had great internet, facetime calls with family, made/received phone calls, texts, and emails.



Would we revisit? Maybe, but not during peak season. The price is fabulous for full hook-ups and large sites and the view was beautiful. I would not use their shower/bathroom houses as they were pretty run down with chipped paint on the walls and floors, rusty shelving, and had only shower curtains vs a door. We enjoyed bug free nights of grilling meals, eating outside, and campfires. No alcohol is allowed at this campground. The WV-15 is a 12-mile hilly, winding, narrow road coming into the campground. I would never want to drive it at night or in bad weather. It also is traveled by large trucks which you can hear throughout some of the campground loops but especially where the full hook-up sites are. The water ran very brown at the start of flow from the in-ground spigots.

★ Area Attractions we did:

- New River Gorge National Park and Preserve- Canyon Rim Visitor Center is very nice with a gorgeous view called Grand View. There is a boardwalk where you can walk down wooden stairs to 2 platform overlooks of the New River Gorge Bridge. Patrick counted the steps back up, but we can't remember how many. He thinks 129 and I remembered 156. If you hike this boardwalk, let us know how many stairs you counted.
- Hiked Long Point Trail – a moderate level 5.2-mile trail in/out. Dogs allowed. Mountain bikes also allowed except the last .2 miles which is a steep section just before you arrive at a rock outcrop called Long Point. There is a panoramic view of the gorge and the New River Gorge Bridge. I stayed with the dogs away from the edges and let Patrick get the edge side photos.
- Tried to hike Endless Wall Trail but could not find parking at either of the 2 trail head parking lots big enough for our Ford F350 long bed truck.
- Summersville Lake reservoir formed by the rock-fill dam on the Gauley River.
- Hiked down to the Gauley River to see the dam flow tube side and the Upper Gauley River Put-In site for white water rafting. Patrick put-in at this exact spot in 1996 when he took a white-water rafting trip down the Gauley River with its class III – V rapids.