

R-Day Questions and Responses

28 June 2004

What does the R in R-Day stand for?

R is for reception.

What is the purpose of R-Day?

R-Day offers a hands on leadership development experience for upperclass cadets while introducing an initial leader development experience to new cadets as they prepare to face the challenges of today's ever changing world.

R-Day assists with the mission of the U.S. Military Academy to develop leaders of character for the Army who are inspired to careers as commissioned officers.

When should we arrive?

A candidate whose
last digit in his/her
Social Security No. is:

Reporting Times
Eastern Daylight
Time

0, 1, 2, 3.....	6:30 a.m.
4, 5, 6.....	7:30 a.m.
7, 8, 9.....	8:30 a.m.

Where should I park?

On R-Day there will be special buses to shuttle parents from the parking lots to Eisenhower Hall. Please enter West Point at Stony Lonesome Gate and park in the lettered lots along Stony Lonesome Road. Bus pickup will be at A lot.

Parking at West Point is very limited in central post areas. For this reason, parking cannot be guaranteed other times that you may visit. On weekdays there are shuttle buses that run every twenty minutes from Buffalo Soldier Field parking area to central post.

Is handicapped parking available?

In addition to regular spots that are delineated by permanent signage, there are designated spots for parking for each event.

Eisenhower Hall handicapped parking will be in the Eisenhower Hall tunnel.

Oath Ceremony handicapped parking will be in the Clinton Field parking area.

We'll be arriving in the area on Sunday, June 27. What can we do that day?

- Vision, a Town of Highlands community group, will sponsor a "Welcome USMA Class of 2008 Party" for cadet candidates and parents on Sunday, June 27, from 2 to 5 p.m., on the front lawn of the Holy Innocents Church on Main Street, Highland Falls, directly across from the Visitors Center.
- Concert at Trophy Point Amphitheatre, Jazz Knights, 7:30 p.m., free to the public. For more information please visit http://www.usma.edu/Band/event_info.htm#6/27

What are some other events I can attend on R- Day?

The following sites are open:

- Parents Information Center, Eisenhower Hall, 6:30 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.
- Associate of Graduates, Herbert Hall Alumni Center
8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Open House
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Gift Shop
- Tours of West Point, leave from Eisenhower Hall, 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (last tour leaves at 1:00 p.m.)
- Chapel Open Houses: Cadet, Catholic and Jewish, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Catholic Mass at Most Holy Trinity Chapel, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.
Organ Recital at Cadet Chapel, 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.
- The Museum and Gift Shop at Pershing Center, Olmsted Hall, 9:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.
- Fort Putnam Historical Site, 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
- Military equipment static display at Daly Field, 10:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
- Superintendent's Welcome in Eisenhower Hall, 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
- Oath Ceremony at Trophy Point, 5:40 p.m.

Where can I get some lunch or dinner?

There are restaurants lining the main street of Highland Falls, just south of Thayer Gate. There will be a lunch shuttle available 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. to accommodate anyone wanting to travel to different sites within West Point for lunch. This shuttle will loop from the Eisenhower Hall tunnel to the West Point Club, Thayer Gate and the Post Exchange.

Ike Hall Café, located in Eisenhower Hall, 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
The West Point Club, 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Grant Hall, 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Hotel Thayer, 11:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Burger King/Post Exchange, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
The Bistro (take out only), 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Are there first aid stations available?

Medical Aid Stations are located at Eisenhower Hall and Doubleday Field. The Military Police can assist in any emergency. Please dial (845) 938-4004 for a medical emergency. If using a post phone just dial x4004.

Where can I catch the shuttle bus?

Buses run from 6:15 a.m. until 4:45 p.m. and will stop at the following designated bus stops:

Southbound – TMP, Laundry, Keller Hospital, K-Lot (old PX), Bldg. 681, Bldg. 667-A, Thayer Statue, Library, Mahan Hall, Post Office, USMA Engineer Platoon, Fenton Rd, Buffalo Soldier Field, Bldg. 622/626, Thayer Gate, and Pershing Gate.

Northbound – Pershing Center, Hotel Thayer, Mills/Thayer Intersection, Library Corner, Thayer Statue, Bldg. 667-A, Bldg. 681, PX K-Lot (old PX), Keller Hospital, Post Laundry, TMP.

In addition, buses will stop at other locations if signaled, provided the location is safe.

What if it rains for the Oath Ceremony? Is there an alternate location?

In the event of severe weather the ceremony will be held in Eisenhower Hall. Only those holding tickets will be admitted to this ceremony because of limited seating. Overflow seating will be available in various locations around Eisenhower Hall.

We recommend that parents pick up their tickets in Eisenhower Hall even if there is no immediate threat of inclement weather.

I can't attend the Oath Ceremony is there any other way to see it?

We will offer streaming video for parents and friends to view the ceremony live on our website at www.usma.edu. After R-Day it will be available on the Class of 2008 website which is accessible from our home page.

I lost something during my visit. Where is the lost and found at West Point?

You can contact lost and found through the Found Property Room at the Military Police Station at (845) 938-5207. Please note that it may take up to 24 hours for found items to be turned in.

How can I contact my son/daughter if there is a family emergency?

In an emergency you can call your cadet's orderly room or tactical officer. If you do not receive an answer you may call the Central Guard Room at (845) 938-3030. The Central Guard Room is manned 24 hours a day and should not be called in non-emergency situations.

When will my son/daughter be able to call home?

They will be allowed to call periodically throughout their Cadet Basic Training.

When will I be able to see my son/daughter again?

There will be no opportunity to visit cadets until Acceptance Day. Your cadet can contact you prior to that to provide you with additional details.

When will my cadet be accepted into the Corps of Cadets?

Candidates do not become part of the Corps of Cadets until they complete Cadet Basic Training. Those who have met all requirements will participate in the Acceptance Day Parade and become members of the Corps of Cadets.

When is Acceptance Day?

Acceptance Day will be held on Saturday, Aug 14. The parade to accept new cadets into the Corps will begin at 10 a.m.

How can I keep updated on events at the Academy throughout my cadet's time here?

Logon to our website at www.usma.edu.

Updates are made daily and you can access the Academy's master calendar for planning purposes at <http://ams-ext.usma.edu/public/MasterCalendar/>.

When will my cadet be able to leave the Academy?

Labor Day weekend, Sept 4-6, is the first opportunity for Plebes to take an overnight pass away from West Point. Additionally, classes and military training are suspended on federal holidays and cadets can escort visitors on these days if duty permits.

When is Parent Weekend?

Plebe Parent Weekend is set for Oct 15-18. During this weekend, parents and friends can visit plebes and examine the facilities at West Point. The weekend will include a Plebe Review, a Superintendent's Orientation, a tour of the facilities, open houses and a formal banquet. There will be no classes held on Oct 18. Parents will be notified officially of the Plebe Parent program. It is advisable that parents who intend to participate make arrangements early.

Will my cadet be able to attend church services and can I meet them during church?

Yes, each cadet is encouraged to attend services. Parents and friends cannot meet with cadets at religious services during Cadet Basic Training.

Can we tour the cadet barracks?

No, this is a cadet living area and is closed to the public.

Is the Superintendent's or Commandant's home open for tours?

Tours are not available at this time.

What is Beast Barracks?

This is a term that affectionately refers to Cadet Basic Training.

What are the different classes of cadets?

New Cadet: A cadet not yet officially accepted as a member of the Corps.

Plebe: A cadet of the Fourth Class; freshman.

Yearling/Yuk: A cadet of the Third Class; a sophomore.

Cow: A cadet of the Second Class; a junior.

Firstie: A cadet of the First Class; a senior.

When can my cadet bring a car to West Point?

Cadets are not permitted to maintain a car at West Point until the spring of their junior year.

Is there anyway to get photos or videos of Cadet Basic Training?

Yes, Academy Photo, (845) 938-3448, will send out mailings to parents of new cadets with information regarding the services they offer.

There is a video taken during Cadet Basic Training that will be available for purchase before Parent/Plebe weekend. The cost and order information can be obtained by visiting www.academyphoto.com.

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