

## **Gun owners fire back**

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### **Parks policies out of whack, petition says**

The Johnstown Rifle & Pistol Club has joined with the Virginia Citizens Defense League in a petition to change regulations prohibiting firearms from national parks.

The petition will be sent to the U.S. Department of the Interior and should appear in the National Register.

What it asks is that gun policies for national parks be made to coincide with the laws of the state within which the park exists, which appears to be a reasonable request. According to club officers, existing regulations prohibit having a weapon on national park property unless it is disassembled, boxed and locked in a car trunk. As one member said, "The only thing legal is a box of parts."

The petition also asks the Department of Interior to honor concealed carry permits issued by the state in which the park exists, and states that have a reciprocity agreement with that state.

It is time for the government to recognize that laws and regulations affecting firearms are upheld and obeyed only by law-abiding citizens. Those intent on doing an unlawful act with a firearm will not be deterred by gun laws.