

Merriweather adds security for Pearl Jam

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Considering going to the Pearl Jam concert with hopes of buying a ticket there?

Think again.

"People without tickets will be waved away at the parking lot," says Jean Parker of Merriweather Post Pavilion press relations.

In addition, Merriweather will close access to the woods that encircle the property at 6 p.m., an hour and a half before showtime. And, as with any sold-out show, security staff will be very large in number, Parker says.

The Howard County police will play an active role in making sure everything runs smoothly. Outside the pavilion, police will be directing traffic and writing citations for underage drinking and other drinking violations, says Sgt. Steven Keller of the Howard County police.

There will be about 25 to 30 officers on duty.

Keller says that county police are taking into account that Pearl Jam rarely tours and has few appearances planned in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Tickets for tonight's Pearl Jam concert went on sale in early August and sold out within 11 minutes.

"We do have concerns about the number of people trying to enter without tickets," Keller says. "But we are working together with the pavilion and do not anticipate any major problems."