



Benefit/Feature Highlight: LifeCare

One of the USPTO's most popular work/life balance benefits is our LifeCare program – and it's one that you can use right away. LifeCare exists to ease your transition into a new community. If you're relocating to the D.C. area, LifeCare is an invaluable resource for you.

Before you plan your move, log in to www.lifecare.com or call 800-456-0845 to consult with a specialist. Take advantage of the free educational materials, personalized referrals and more that help you cope with the stress of a move and locate new resources in your new home. Through LifeCare, you'll find assistance with:

- Moving: movers, cleaning services, storage facilities and more
- Housing: realtors, mortgage companies, rental agencies, apartment-locator services, home inspectors and improvement resources and more
- Settling In: child care, babysitters, adult care, pet care, community organizations, DMV locations, insurance agents, fitness programs, local schools, neighborhood information and more

The support doesn't just stop at recommending resources. LifeCare specialists research and pre-screen all referrals to ensure they meet your specific needs (location, budget and otherwise). You'll find even more information, support and tools on the LifeCare website – www.lifecare.com. LifeCare is there to help you – we encourage you to take advantage of the program as frequently as you like.

Working and Living in D.C.: Take a Hike

Now that the weather's getting warmer, it's the perfect time to take advantage of some of the great natural resources the Washington, D.C. area has to offer. In and around the urban settings that we live in, there are some amazing parks, trails and sights that make great hiking destinations. Here are a few to consider when you're looking to get out of the house on a sunny Saturday.

Rock Creek Park. Stretching over 25 miles, Rock Creek Park takes you through the city and into Montgomery County, Maryland. Not only is it a great hike, but you can make pit stops ranging from boating to visiting the National Zoo or the planetarium and more.

Great Falls Park. Whether you visit the Maryland or Virginia side of Great Falls Park, you'll be treated to majestic nature and a slice of history. The park marks the spot where George Washington built a canal to skirt the Potomac River. Great Falls is home to several waterfalls – marking the steepest fall line rapids of any eastern river – and 14 miles of hiking, and it's incredibly convenient to the city and its suburbs.

Appalachian Trail. The famous east coast hike offers a few stretches in our area perfect for day trips. Whether you pick it up at Greenbrier State Park, Washington Monument State Park, Harpers Ferry or one of the other destinations around D.C., you'll find an incredible escape to nature.

▶ FROM PTO

Take a Look at the PTO Museum

As you're getting acquainted with a new area and getting ready for a new career, take some time to visit the U.S. Patent and Trademark Museum. It offers an up-close-and-personal look at the important role intellectual property protection plays in our nation's social and economic health – the perfect way to introduce your friends and family to your new career.

The museum is currently featuring an exhibit called, "Shoes: Innovations at Your Feet." Take a stroll through the history of America's most stylish innovations and learn how people have customized footwear for industry, comfort and fashion.

The museum is located in the Atrium of the Madison Building at 600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA. Visit Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. Closed on Sundays and federal holidays.

▶ FAST FACTS

Patents and Trademarks Make Sense

Patents and trademarks can cover an ever-widening range of things, including ones that appeal to all of your senses.

- Feel the effects of oral penicillin, patented in 1956.
- See pictures taken on George Eastman's patented roll film camera, 1888.
- Hear the patented lion-roar of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, trademark registered in 1924.
- Smell Max Factor's perfumes, trademarked since 1940.
- Taste Tater Tots, trademark registered in 1958.

helping of history along with it. Charity Walks. If you're looking to take a hike, why not do it for charity? The D.C. area is home to numerous charity walks, including the MS Walk, the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer, the Relay for Life, AIDS Walk Washington and many more. For more hiking and outdoor destinations around the Washington area, visit Trails.com or LocalHikes.com

