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**Chesapeake  
Conservancy**  
[www.chesapeakeconservancy.org](http://www.chesapeakeconservancy.org)

In partnership with the National Park Service



"Heaven and earth never  
agreed better to frame a  
place for man's habitation."  
~ Captain John Smith

## CHESAPEAKE TRIPS AND TIPS: YOUR GUIDE TO THE CHESAPEAKE BAY WATERSHED

### - PHOTO OF THE WEEK -



### - QUICK LINKS -

[CBEC Wet & Wild Auction](#)  
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### CHESAPEAKE FUN - THIS WEEK'S TRIPS

#### [9th Annual Wet & Wild Live & Silent Auction](#)

Come support the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (CBEC) at their Wet & Wild Auction! This year's theme is "Denim & Diamonds: A Casually Elegant Event." All proceeds go to supporting CBEC's mission of "promoting stewardship and sustainability through environmental education and habitat restoration." *September 21, 6pm, CBEC, Grasonville, MD. Tickets: \$90/person, incl. buffet dinner, beer, wine, cash bar (\$45/ticket is tax deductible). To purchase tickets, call (410) 827-6694 or visit the [website](#).*

#### [2013 Maryland Lighthouse Challenge](#)

Discover Maryland's historic lighthouses during this educational and fun-filled weekend! Collect a complimentary souvenir at each, with a special souvenir proclaiming that "you've seen the lights!" for those who visit all. Bonus lights, cruise, and early bird special on Maryland's eastern shore. *September 21-22, multiple locations, 8am-6pm. For more info, call (410) 437-0741 or visit the [website](#).*

## [Native Plant Sales](#)

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### [OSPREY WEBCAM!!](#)

The chicks are learning to fly! [Click here](#) to watch it happen and check our Facebook page or [blog](#) for updates.

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Chesapeake Trips and Tips is a partnership project of the [Chesapeake Conservancy](#) and the [National Park Service Chesapeake Bay Office](#).

[Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails](#) are special places that tell the story of the Bay.

Explore the stories and routes of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail at [www.smithtrail.net](http://www.smithtrail.net)

The [Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail](#) commemorates the Chesapeake campaign of the War of 1812.



[Sign up to receive Trips](#)

## [Riverfest](#)

Discover 101 ways you can preserve and enjoy the St. Mary's River while enjoying great entertainment, demos, and exhibits at Riverfest in Historic St. Mary's City! Enjoy touch tanks, birds of prey, kayaking, sailing, seining, wade-ins, oyster-tonging, live music & dance and more! *September 21, 10am-4pm, Historic St. Mary's City, MD. FREE. For more info, call (301) 737-2903 or visit the [website](#).*

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## [Boatyard Beach Bash](#)

Party with the parrotheads and enjoy the sounds of Michael Utley and Doyle Grisham from Jimmy Buffet's Coral Reefers! Enjoy a delicious grilled buffet dinner on the shore of the Chesapeake Bay. VIP tickets include a chance to meet the band, hors d'oeuvres, and open bar. *September 21, 5pm-9pm, Annapolis Maritime Museum, MD. Cost: \$65/person, \$75 at the door, \$125 VIP tickets. For more info, contact Mary at (410) 295-0104 or visit the [website](#).*

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## [Celebrate Wildwood](#)

Celebrate Wildwood presents a variety of activities designed to highlight the park's functions and appeal to its diverse user groups. Award-winning children's musical entertainer Ray Owen will make his first appearance at Wildwood Park with three free shows. Don't miss "The Running of the Turtles" as recently-hatched baby snapping turtles are released to make their way into the wetlands. The Humane Society will be on site with adoptable dogs and a pet vaccination clinic. Back by popular demand are free educational stations including bird banding, monarch butterfly tagging, heart-healthy monitoring station, and children's activities. *While the festival is free, a nominal fee for some activities will help raise funds for the Friends of Wildwood whose mission is to support and preserve the park. September 22, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm, Olewine Nature Center. More information available [online](#) or call the at the Nature Center 717-221-0292.*

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[James River Splash & Dash](#)

## [and Tips as a weekly e-newsletter!!](#)



### [Tour the Bay with a Chesapeake Waterman!](#)

Visit the just released [www.watermenheritagetours.org](http://www.watermenheritagetours.org) website to find tours on the water and on the land. Enjoy a sunset sail aboard a historic Skipjack or try your hand at trotlining and take home your own crabs!



### [CHESAPEAKE EXPLORER](#)

The new official National Park Service app for the Chesapeake Bay allows you to discover national parks, state parks, heritage sites, and national historic and scenic trails throughout the watershed. Take a suggested tour, build your own tour, tag favorites, and share photos.

The James River Splash & Dash is a competitive tube race which takes place near Richmond's Belle Isle. Participants run a 5k trail course, grab a tube, paddle (with their hands) across a stretch of the James, and run their tube to the finish line. After the race, JRA hosts an after party that includes a live music and food and beer sales! September 22, 3:00 pm, register for \$34 by Wednesday to participate in the race. For more information visit the [website](#).

## SNEAK PEEK - WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS

### [River Towns Workshop](#)

Join the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership and Bloomsburg University for the Susquehanna River Towns Workshop: Creating Greener, More Flood Resilient Communities. The Susquehanna River is one of the most flood prone rivers in the country. This workshop will help municipal leaders and residents understand why we are experiencing more frequent and severe flooding and what can be done to help minimize future flooding. *Registration Cost: \$15 (includes lunch). Registration Deadline: Sept. 20, 2013 Monday, September 30, 2013 - 10:00am - 4:00pm. Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA.*

### [Powhatan Creek Paddle](#)

Powhatan Creek, a tributary in the lower James River, is known for its exceptional biodiversity. This paddle begins at Eco Discovery Park in Jamestown and winds up the creek. With National Park Service lands on one side and small communities lining the 22 mile watershed, it is not uncommon to see bald eagles, osprey, great blue herons, great egrets and beautiful fresh/brackish water marsh plants in bloom. The most impressive part of the Powhatan Creek paddle are the bald cypress trees lining the shoreline! If we make it far enough, paddlers will get a chance to get up close to one of the oldest living trees in Virginia! Beauty is seen either on the morning or late afternoon/evening paddles. *This is a kayak trip not to be missed by the nature lover! Cost \$50 per person, see the [website](#) for more information*

### [Bald Cypress Swamp Canoe Trip](#)

Join the Virginia Living Museum as they cross the border and explore Merchants Millpond State Park in North Carolina, an ecological wonderland containing remnants of

Download it for free [here](#).



### **WILDLIFE REFUGES**

Explore 11 iconic National Wildlife Refuges of the Chesapeake Bay and share your wildlife encounters from each location. Connect with a community of outdoor enthusiasts, help document species, and promote conservation, all with your iPhone with this [free app](#) designed by the Chesapeake Conservancy, supported by the USFWS, and built by the National Geographic Society using Project Noah's popular wildlife photo-sharing service.

an ancient bald cypress swamp filled with Spanish moss, mistletoe, birds, and frogs. This is one of the Mid Atlantic Region's rarest ecological communities. *For ages 18 and up, or 8 to 17 accompanied by an adult. Departs from the Virginia Living Museum; 7 a.m. \$45 VLM members, \$60 non-members. Register in advance, [online](#) or call 757-595-9135. 7:00 AM - 7:30 PM Saturday September 28.*

### **ChalkFest**

Come to the annual free and fun ChalkFest and join in as kids create their own chalk mural, see magic shows and balloon acts, as well as join in on fun and educational river activities. *Saturday, September 28 from 11:00am - 3:00pm at Millenium Circle Portal on the River Common. Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. For more information see the [website](#).*



### **Come to DC Green**

The Washington DC Green Festival is the nation's premier sustainability and social justice event! At this two-day festival of fun, over 200 green businesses and organizations gather under one roof with leading social and environmental speakers and performers to inspire, inform and engage you. Enjoy a memorable weekend with fun, family and community at Washington DC Green Festival! September 21 and 22, cost \$10 a day visit the [website](#) for more information.

### **WHAT YOU CAN DO - TIP OF THE WEEK**

#### **Stock Up: More Native Plant Sales!**

#### **Virginia Living Museum Native Plant Sale**

Choose from an array of beautiful plants, trees, shrubs and perennials. Native plants tolerate the area's weather and serve as food and shelter for area wildlife. Museum staff will be on hand to answer your questions. All plants are nursery propagated. *September 21, 9am-3pm & September 22, noon-3pm, Virginia Living Museum, Newport News, VA. Admission to the sale is free. For more info visit the [website](#).*

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**[CEC Native Plant Sale & Garden Open House!](#)**

Join the Chesapeake Ecology Center (CEC) for conservation landscaping info, garden tours led by Master Gardeners and refreshments. Come support this annual fundraiser and pick up native plants at discount prices! *September 21, 9am-1pm (rain date September 22, 9am-1pm), CEC, 245 Clay St., Annapolis, MD.*

*For more info, visit the [website](#).*

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**“Celebrate and Protect our Great Rivers and Lands”**

John Smith Chesapeake Trail

Chesapeake Bay Gateways & Watertrails

Treasured Landscapes

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