



Getting Your Feet Wet: Big Benefits of Water Recreation

- New Public Water Access: Accomplishments, Opportunities and Benefits in Anne Arundel County
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- Water Access Commission
- Anne Arundel County



Why? Benefits of Water Access

- Health & Family Strength
- FUN
- Environmental Support
- FUN
- Fairness
- FUN
- Economic Benefit
- FUN



6 boats = 1 job!

- The outdoor recreation economy in Maryland already generates 109,000 direct jobs, \$14 billion in consumer spending, \$4.4 billion in wages and salaries, and million in state and local tax revenue. Investment in outdoor recreation and nature and heritage tourism economies supports many outdoor activities in Maryland, including hiking, biking, horse-back riding, paddling, boating, fishing, hunting, camping, swimming, wildlife-viewing, and visiting historic sites.



When?

- NOW

- 
- We don't get years back – taking your 3 year old child to the beach is different than taking your 8 year old or 13 year old to the beach
 - Program Open Space funding is for “public outdoor recreation” - we're spending public tax dollars and taking land off the tax rolls and the general public deserves to benefit from that public investment as soon as possible



How?

- Identify publicly owned waterfront land
- Work with user groups to open immediately as rustic parks
- Focus on basic access



What Is Basic Access?

- Park Sign
- Open Gate
- Ample Parking
- Unloading area near the water
- Portapotty



Who?

- Local government
- Local nonprofits
- Local businesses
- Local user groups working together for the benefit of all

Who are the local user groups?

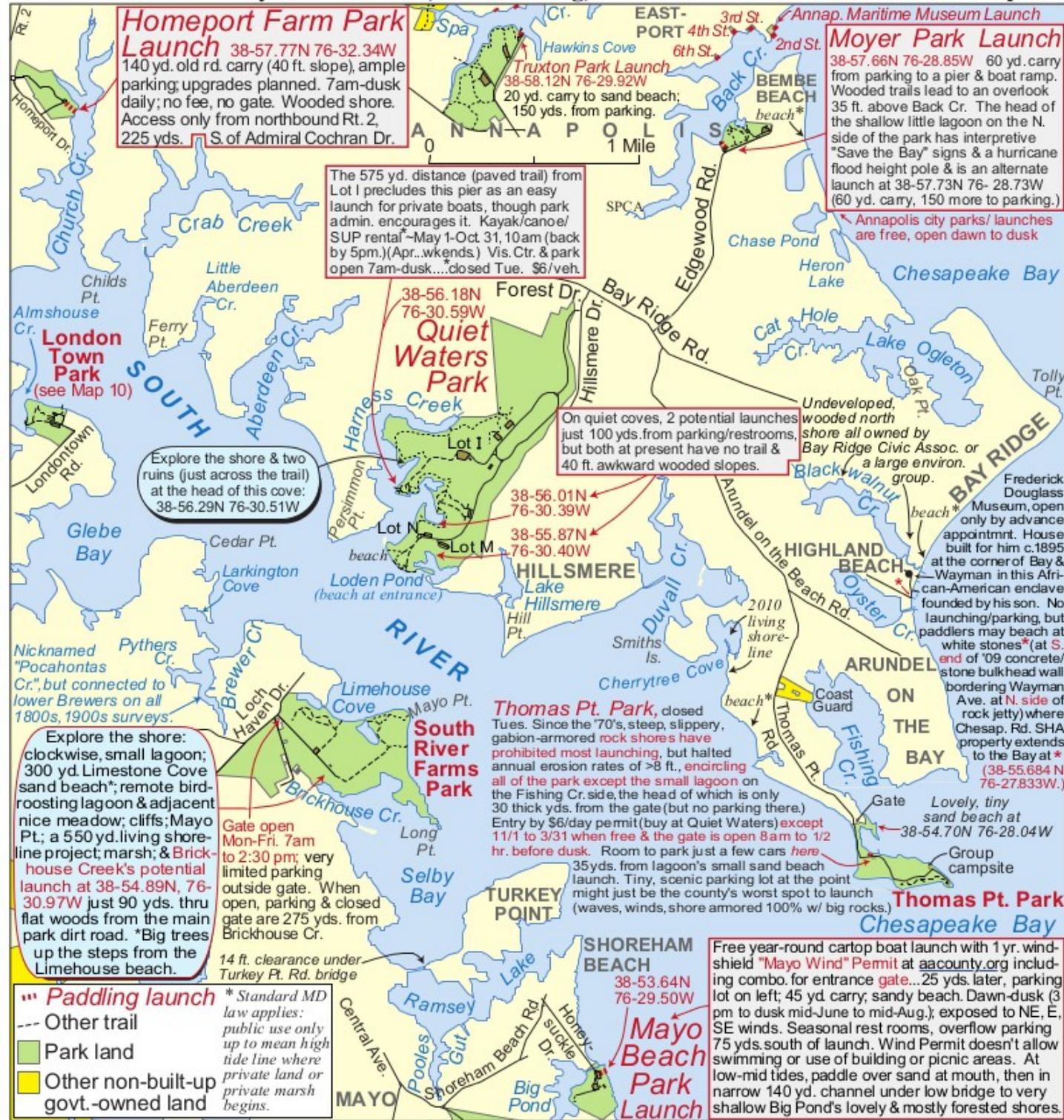
- Working coalition of wet feet activists organized through the Public Water Access Committee
- It's all of us or none of us
- Sea kayakers, kayak anglers, recreational kayakers, stand up paddleboarders, pier and shore anglers, wind surfers, kiteboarders, trailered boat owners, beach goers, birdwatchers, dog walkers
- No privileged groups



Success Stories

- Homeport Farm Park
- Downs Park onto the Bodkin
- Beverly Triton Beach Park
- Discovery Village

Anne Arundel County Water Trail (AACWT.org): MAP 9 - Lower South River to Eastport











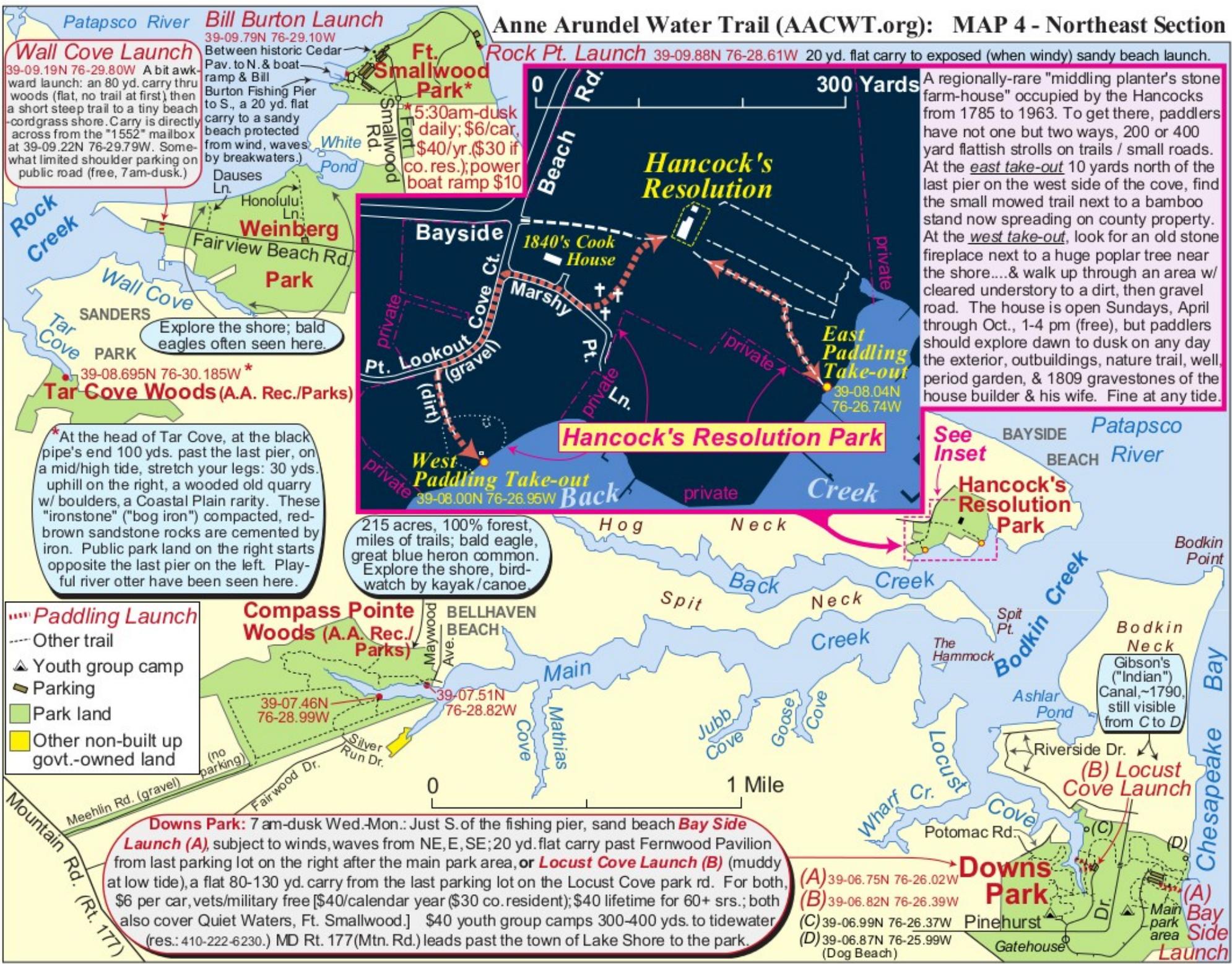






MOORING OF BOATS PROHIBITED

Anne Arundel Water Trail (AACWT.org): MAP 4 - Northeast Section











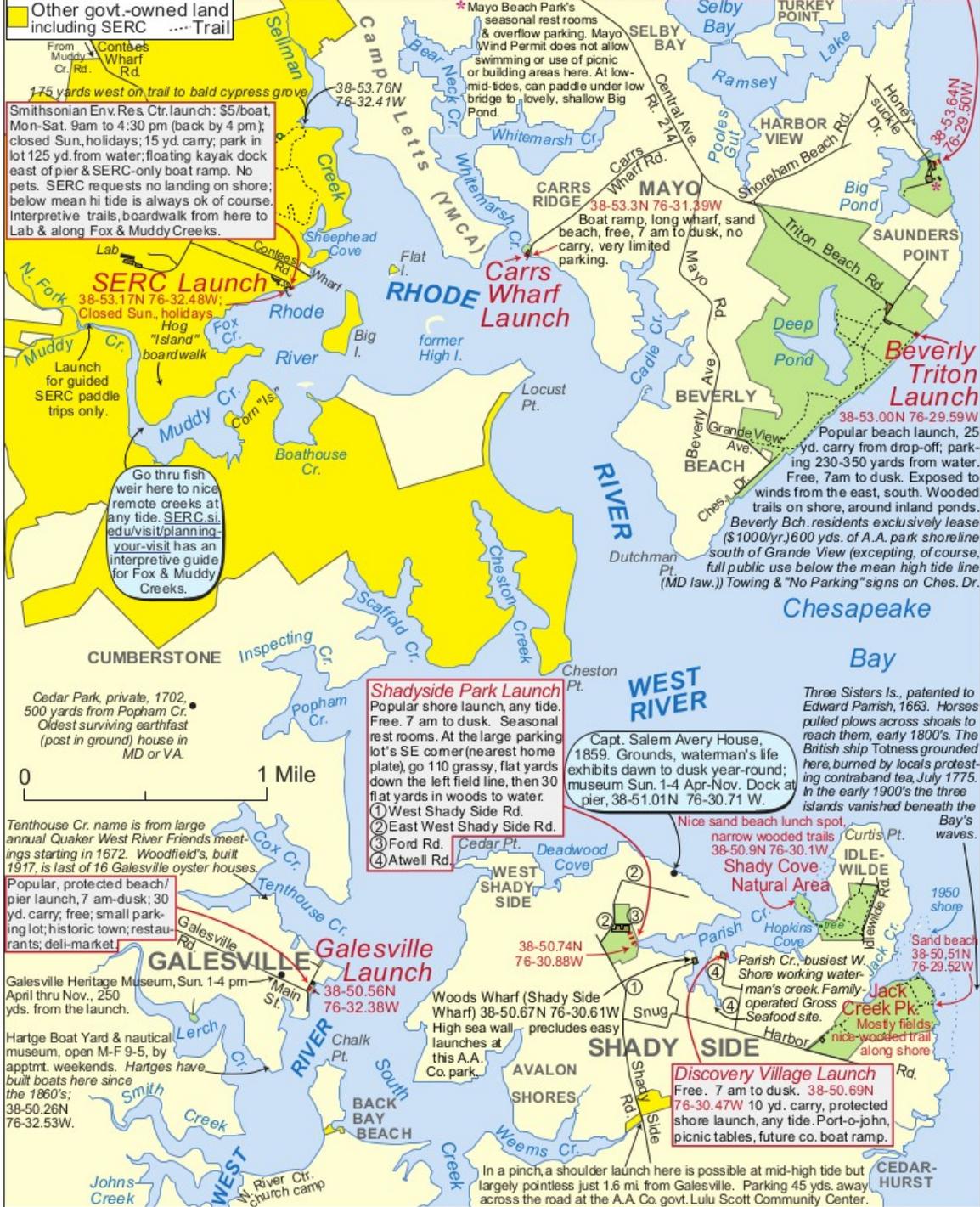




Anne Arundel County Water Trail(AACWT.org): MAP 11 West - Rhode Rivers

- Paddling launch
- Park land
- Other govt.-owned land including SERC
- ◆ Parking
- ⋯ Trail

Mayo Beach Park Launch. Free cartop boat launch year-round with 1 yr. windshield "Mayo Wind" permit at aacounty.org which includes combo. for entrance gate, then parking on left; 45 yd. carry, sandy beach. Dawn-dusk (3 pm-dusk mid-June to mid-Aug.); exposed to NE, E, SE winds.*



Smithsonian Env. Res. Ctr. launch: \$5/boat, Mon-Sat. 9am to 4:30 pm (back by 4 pm); closed Sun, holidays; 15 yd. carry; park in lot 125 yd. from water; floating kayak dock east of pier & SERC-only boat ramp. No pets. SERC requests no landing on shore; below mean hi tide is always ok of course. Interpretive trails, boardwalk from here to Lab & along Fox & Muddy Creeks.

SERC Launch
38-53.17N 76-32.48W
Closed Sun, holidays
Hog "Island" boardwalk
Launch for guided SERC paddle trips only.

Go thru fish weir here to nice remote creeks at any tide. SERC site used w/visit/planning - your visit has an interpretive guide for Fox & Muddy Creeks.

Cedar Park, private, 1702, 500 yards from Popham Cr. Oldest surviving earthen (post in ground) house in MD or VA.

Tenthouse Cr. name is from large annual Quaker West River Friends meetings starting in 1672. Woodfield's, built 1917, is last of 16 Galesville oyster houses.

Popular, protected beach/pier launch, 7 am-dusk; 30 yd. carry; free; small parking lot; historic town; restaurants; deli-market

Galesville Heritage Museum, Sun. 1-4 pm April thru Nov., 250 yds. from the launch.

Hartge Boat Yard & nautical museum, open M-F 9-5, by appt. weekends. Hartges have built boats here since the 1860's: 38-50.26N 76-32.53W.

Shady Side Park Launch
Popular shore launch, any tide. Free. 7 am to dusk. Seasonal rest rooms. At the large parking lot's SE corner (nearest home plate), go 110 grassy, flat yards down the left field line, then 30 flat yards in woods to water.

- ① West Shady Side Rd.
- ② East West Shady Side Rd.
- ③ Ford Rd.
- ④ Atwell Rd.

Capt. Salem Avery House, 1859. Grounds, waterman's life exhibits dawn to dusk year-round; museum Sun. 1-4 Apr-Nov. Dock at pier, 38-51.01N 76-30.71 W.

Three Sisters Is., patented to Edward Parrish, 1663. Horses pulled plows across shoals to reach them, early 1800's. The British ship Totness grounded here, burned by locals protesting contraband tea, July 1775. In the early 1900's the three islands vanished beneath the Bay's waves.

Nice sand beach lunch spot, narrow wooded trails
38-50.9N 76-30.1W
Shady Cove Natural Area

Parish Cr., busiest W. Shore working waterman's creek. Family operated Gross Seafood site.

Jack Creek Pk. Mostly fields; nice wooded trail along shore

Discovery Village Launch
Free. 7 am to dusk. 38-50.69N 76-30.47W 10 yd. carry, protected shore launch, any tide. Port-o-john, picnic tables, future co. boat ramp.

In a pinch, a shoulder launch here is possible at mid-high tide but largely pointless just 1.6 mi from Galesville. Parking 45 yds. away across the road at the A.A. Co. gov't. Lulu Scott Community Center.









MORE INFORMATION

- Water Access Activity Finder
Department of Recreation and Parks
Anne Arundel County
<https://www.aacounty.org/departments/recreation-parks/parks/water-accessibility/index.html>
- Anne Arundel County Water Trail
<http://aacwt.org>



MORE INFORMATION CONT.

- Chesapeake Water Access and Paddle-in Campsite Atlas
Ralph Heimlich, Chesapeake Paddlers Association
<http://www.cpakayaker.com/chesapeake-bay-access-and-paddle-in-campsite-map/>
- Public Water Access Committee
<https://www.facebook.com/aapwac>