

The South End is home to Patuxent River State Park's Nature Center, as well as all the park's developed trails. Most of the park's programs take place in the South End, which is the most popular area for hikers in the park! This area has a major parking lot along Route 97 and others along Jennings Chapel Road, Howard Chapel Road, and at the end of Elton Farm Road.

Nature Center - Our Nature Center offers exhibits and a wide array of programs for all ages, from children's programs to guided hikes and volunteer opportunities. Hours of operation vary by season. A calendar of upcoming Nature Center events and hours of operation is updated monthly and can be found at:

dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/documents/ patuxent_programs.pdf

Entrance to Patuxent River State Park is **always free**! There are no parking fees or other recreational use fees.

The Park is open from sunrise to sunset.

Duty Ranger: 443-962-0216 Main Office: 301-924-2127

Sign up for our newsletter through our website to learn about park news and programs!

Trash Free Parks: Maryland State Parks are trash free. Visitors must carry out all trash when they leave the park.

General Park Rules:

- Pets are allowed in all outside areas but must be leashed and cleaned up after.
 A bin for pet waste bags can be found near the driveway gate in the South End's main parking lot.
- Park only in designated areas.
- Off-road vehicles are not permitted.
- Amplified music is not permitted.
- Fires are not permitted.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted.
- Recreational activities permitted include swimming and tubing in the Patuxent River, hunting and fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, and hiking.
- Hunting and fishing are permitted in designated locations only. Please review regulations in the annual MD Hunting Guide and/or Fishing Guide. Hunting area maps can be found at:

dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/ central/patuxentriver.aspx.



Larry Hogan, Governor | Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary

The facilities and services of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources are available to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin or physical or mental disability. This document is available in alternative format upon request.

Patuxent River State Park

Park Map and Information



Welcome to Patuxent River State Park, where you can explore and enjoy the headwaters of the Patuxent River as it begins its 115 mile journey to the Chesapeake Bay. Located in Howard and Montgomery counties, protecting the upper 12 miles of the Patuxent River watershed, the park now encompasses 6,700 acres in three major natural and agricultural areas stretching from Route 27 between Damascus and Mt. Airy to Route 97.

The North End is popular with hikers, mountain bikers, and horseback riders. It is a largely undeveloped area with miles of unmarked trails created over the years by park patrons. Parking areas to access these trails are at the end of Brown Church Road, along Long Corner Road and Mullinix Mill Road where they cross the Patuxent River, and on the Montgomery County side of Route 94.

The Wildlands encompasses 1,579 acres of land in the middle region of the park. The trail system here is largely undeveloped, which helps highlight the natural beauty of the river valley and provides an excellent place to study nature in an undisturbed state. Parking areas can be found on Hipsley Mill Road and Annapolis Rock Road. Patuxent River State Park is a multi-use park. Please be aware of and respect other users and their respective activities.

Patuxent River State Park has many unmarked "social" trails created by hunters, equestrians, wildlife, and hikers. These trails are not maintained by park staff so the quality of these trails can vary. If venturing along social trails, bring a cellphone and note our Duty Ranger number 443-962-0216. When hiking on these unmarked trails, be prepared to see nature at its wildest!

Flowing Free Trail

burying ground

blue Cemetery Trail

1.4 mile hike from main parking lot or Nature Center to

Howard Chapel Road. Side loops blazed white and

2 mile hike through forest and meadows. Trail passes Howard Chapel Cemetery, a historic African-American





Nature Center

Horse Trailer Parking

Wildlands

Area

Hunting Area

State Park Boundary (Approx.)

Wildlands and Hunting

Patuxent River State Park — Southern Area Trails