Chesapeake and Ohio Canal 2018 Park Planner

Explore the Park

For Emergencies
Dial 911 or 1-866-677-6677

Biking
The Canal Towpath provides 184.5 miles of gravel path for biking.
- Ride single file
- Bells and helmets are recommended
- Stay to the right except when passing
- Yield right of way to all pedestrians and horses
- Children under age 16 must wear bike helmets
- Walk bike across aqueducts

Boating and Fishing
Non-motorized boats are allowed in watered sections of the canal, motorized vessels are prohibited.
- Boat ramp access to the Potomac River can be found on the park map
- Personal Flotation Devices are required by the State of Maryland
Fishing in the canal and river is regulated by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. Visit www.dnr.state.md.us for more info.

Dog Walking
Dogs are permitted in the park. They must be on leash no longer than 6 feet and under the owner’s physical control. Dogs are not permitted on Olmsted Island and Billy Goat Trail A.

Hiking
The C&O Canal has a variety of hiking opportunities for all skill levels. In addition to the 184.5 miles of towpath, there are 14 miles of trails in the Great Falls area as well as the 2 mile Paw Paw Tunnel Trail.
- Trail maps are available at visitor centers
- Bring water
- Wear sturdy footwear
- Be prepared for changing weather conditions

Horseback Riding
Horses are permitted on the towpath from Swains Lock (mile 16.6) upstream to Candoc/Offutt Street (mile 181.8). Horses are NOT allowed at the following locations:
- Georgetown (mile 0) to Swains Lock (mile 16.6)
- Candoc/Offutt Street (mile 181.8) to Cumberland Terminus (mile 184.5)
- Paw Paw Tunnel
- Drive-in/walk-in campgrounds
- Picnic areas
- All other hiking areas

Group Picnicking
Group picnicking is available at the Carderock Pavilion. Accommodations for up to 200 people are available. An advanced permit is required and a fee is charged. Reservations can be obtained by visiting www.recreation.gov. Call 301-767-3703 for more information.
Swimming
Swimming is not permitted in the canal, or in the Potomac River bordering the District of Columbia and Montgomery County, MD. Swimming is not recommended in other areas of the river.

Firearm Regulations
Federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under applicable federal, state, and local laws to carry firearms in this park. Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in the park. Those places are marked with signs at all public entrances and include visitor centers and lockhouses.

Firewood Restriction
Due to an infestation by the emerald ash borer beetle, a park-wide ban is in effect on bringing in your own firewood. Campers may collect dead and down wood in the park.

Leave No Trace Principles
C&O Canal is a trash free park. Please take trash and dog and horse waste with you. Trash bags are provided at dispensers located throughout the park.

For a complete listing of park rules and regulations please visit the Superintendent’s Compendium: www.nps.gov/choh/parkmgmt

Visitor Center Locations and Hours

Georgetown
1057 Thomas Jefferson St., NW, Washington, DC 20007
Currently closed

Great Falls Tavern
11710 MacArthur Blvd., Potomac, MD 20854, (301) 767-3714
Hours: Wednesday-Sunday 9:00-4:30

Brunswick
40 West Potomac Street Brunswick, MD 21716, (301) 834-7100
Hours: Thursday and Friday, 10:00-2:00, Saturday 10:00-4:00, and Sunday 1:00-4:00

Ferry Hill
16500 Shepherdstown Pike, Sharpsburg, MD 21782
Hours: Saturday-Sunday 11:30 - 3:30, Memorial Day weekend - Labor Day

Williamsport
205 W. Potomac Williamsport, MD 21795, (301) 582-0813
Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 9:00-4:30, March-November

Hancock
439 East Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750
Memorial Day weekend-Labor Day, Hours: Friday-Sunday 10:00-3:00

Cumberland
Western Maryland Railway Station, 13 Canal St., Room 100, Cumberland, MD 21502, (301) 722-8226
Hours: Daily, 9:00-5:00
Explore a Lockhouse

There are restored lockhouses open to visitation along the Canal. Locations and hours are as follows:

**Rileys Lockhouse**
Late April - early June & early September - early December:
Saturday and Sunday 1:00 - 4:00

**Lockhouse 8**
May-October 15:
Saturday and Sunday 10:00 - 2:00

**Lander Lockhouse (Lockhouse 29)**
April - September:
Saturday 11:00-2:00

**Lockhouse 44**
For hours of operation please call (301)582-0813

**Lockhouse 70**
Late May - September:
Saturday and Sunday 10:00-4:00

**Lockhouse 75**
Late May - September:
Saturday and Sunday 10:00-4:00

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**Summer Ranger Programs**

For other programs, please check with the visitor centers

**Canal Boat Programs**

**Great Falls:**
Experience living history travelling the canal on the mule-drawn replica passenger boat while also locking through a lift lock. $8 for adults, $6 for seniors, $5 for children

- **Frequency**
  - Weekends: April-Oct
  - Fridays: Summer only

- **Times**
  - 11am
  - 1:30pm
  - 3pm

- **Duration**
  - 1 hour

- **Location and Contact**
  Great Falls Tavern: 301-767-3714

**Williamsport:**
Enjoy life on the canal with a replica canal launch boat program. This program includes a short walk, boat ride, tour of Lock House 44, and a lock demonstration. FREE

- **Frequency**
  - Thursday through Sunday
  - Memorial Day-Labor Day weekends

- **Times**
  - 11am
  - 1:30pm
• 3pm
• Duration 1 hour

Location and Contact
Williamsport: 301-582-0813

Trails & Rails Program on the Capitol Limited
Cumberland
As you ride the Amtrak train, explore the scenery and history with a guided program. Cumberland-Washington, DC-Cumberland. Amtrak Ticket Required. Visit Amtrak.com

Frequency
• Saturday: April-September
• Thursday: June-August

Times
• Vary

Duration
• 3 hours each way

Location and Contact
Cumberland: 301-722-8226

Other Ways to Enjoy the Park
Throughout the year, the Canal hosts a variety of special events! Visit http://www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/calendar.htm for dates and details!

Bike Loaner Program:
This FREE program is offered on weekends at the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center, weather permitting and daily when the Williamsport Visitor Center is open.

Family Backpack Activity:
Stop by the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center and “check out” one of our family backpacks full of activities and gear to help children and adults enjoy the park.

Junior Ranger Program:
Ask for an activity booklet at any of our Visitor Centers.

Education Programs:
Field Trips are currently offered at our Cumberland, Williamsport, and Great Falls locations. Please call 301-714-2213 or email cocanaleducation@nps.gov for more information.
Featured Hiking Trails

For a complete list of hiking trails in your area visit the nearest visitor center.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hike Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Distance One-Way</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Olmsted Island Bridges to Great Falls Overlook</td>
<td>Paved trail over a series of bridges and boardwalks across the river ending at the Great Falls overlook. Spectacular view of the Falls and the head of Mather Gorge. Handicap Accessible. Dogs are not permitted.</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>0.2 miles</td>
<td>Great Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Goat Trail Section C</td>
<td>Scenic river views and a small waterfall are encountered on this trail. Excellent wildflower and birding area.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>1.6 miles</td>
<td>Carderock</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Mine Trail</td>
<td>Woodland trail leads over streams and across hills to remains of historic gold mining operations, dating 1880’s through 1921.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>2.1 miles</td>
<td>Great Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overlook Trail</td>
<td>Begin at the Lock 19 trailhead, located near the Great Falls Tavern Visitor Center. Take the Lock 19 Trail and bear right at the first intersection onto the Overlook Trail. This trail connects to the Gold Mine Spur.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>0.4 miles</td>
<td>Great Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Goat Trail Section A</td>
<td>Be prepared for this trail. See cautions. It is a very physically demanding trail. Scrambling over angled rocks, boulders and climbing are required. Views of Mather Gorge and river. Trail follows cliff along river and rejoins towpath 0.7 mile north of Anglers Inn. Trail makes a 3.7 mile loop via Towpath. There are no shortcuts over rocks. Dogs are not permitted.</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
<td>1.7 miles</td>
<td>Great Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paw Paw Tunnel Hill Trail</td>
<td>Hike over the top of the Paw Paw Tunnel. Interpretive signage points out resources along the way. Views of the Paw Paw Bends. Contact the Cumberland Visitor Center for upcoming guided tours.</td>
<td>Strenuous</td>
<td>2 miles</td>
<td>Paw Paw Tunnel</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Staying on the Canal

Car Accessible Camping

Antietam Creek, McCoy’s Ferry, Fifteenmile Creek, Paw Paw Tunnel, and Spring Gap. Sites are reservation only.
Permits can be obtained at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). $20 per night/per site peak season, $10 non-peak. 8 people maximum per site.

Hiker-Biker Campsites

Not accessible by car. Located along the towpath every 5-7 miles. No fee. Overnight stays are limited to one night.
All sites include a chemical toilet, picnic table, grill, and drinking water (water available mid-April through mid-November).

Group Campsites

Marsden Tract, McCoy’s Ferry, Fifteenmile Creek, Paw Paw, and Spring Gap. Sites are reservation only. Permits can be obtained at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).
$40 per night peak season, $20 non-peak season. 35 people maximum per site.

Canal Quarters Experience

Lockhouses 6, 10, 22, 25, 28, and 49 are open for overnight interpretive experiences. Lockhouses sleep up to eight people. For more information, fees and registration visit the Canal Trust website [www.CanalQuarters.org](http://www.CanalQuarters.org).
The following is a list of recreational services by mile. Hiking opportunities are available park-wide. Commercial services are subject to change at any time.
Recreational Guide by Milepost

The following is a list of recreational services by mile. Hiking opportunities are available park-wide. Commercial services are subject to change at any time.

0.1: Thompson Boat House
   - Restrooms
   - Food
   - Bike Repairs/Rentals
   - Parking

0.4: Georgetown
   - Visitor Center
   - Restrooms
   - Food
   - Groceries
   - Lodging
   - Bike Repairs/Rentals
   - Parking

3.1: Fletchers Cove
   - Restrooms
   - Food
   - Picnic Tables
   - Bike Repairs/Rentals
   - Boat Rentals
   - Parking

5.4: Lock 6
   - Picnic Tables
   - Canal Quarters
   - Parking

6.5: Sycamore Island
   - Picnic Tables
   - Parking

7: Lock 7 (Glen Echo)
   - Picnic Tables
   - Parking

8.3: Lock 8 (Seven Locks)
   - Restrooms
   - Picnic Tables
   - Parking

8.8: Lock 10 (Seven Locks)
   - Picnic Tables
   - Canal Quarters
   - Parking

10.5: Carderock
   - Restrooms
   - Picnic Tables
   - Parking

11: Marsden Tract (Permit Required)
   - Fee Area
   - Car Accessible Camping

12.2: Anglers Access
   - Restrooms
   - Canoe/Kayak Ramp
   - Parking

14.3: Great Falls
   - Visitor Center
   - Fee Area
   - Restrooms
   - Food
   - Picnic Tables
   - Parking

16.6: Lock 21 (Swains Lock)
   - Restrooms
   - Picnic Tables
   - Hiker/Biker Camping
   - Parking

19.6: Lock 22 (Pennyfield Lock)
   - Restrooms
   - Canal Quarters
   - Parking

22.1: Lock 23 (Violettes Lock)
   - Restrooms
   - Picnic Tables
   - Canoe/Kayak Ramp
   - Parking

22.8: Seneca
   - Restrooms
   - Picnic Tables
   - Canoe/Kayak Ramp
   - Parking

26.1: Horsepen Branch
   - Restrooms
   - Hiker/Biker Camping

27.2: Sycamore Landing
   - Boat Ramp
   - Parking

30.5: Chisel Branch
   - Restrooms
   - Hiker/Biker Camping
30.8: Edwards Ferry
   Canal Quarters
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

34.4: Turtle Run
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

35.5: Whites Ferry
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Boat Rentals
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

38.2: Marble Quarry
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

42.2: Monocacy Aqueduct
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

42.5: Indian Flats
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

44.6: Nolands Ferry
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

47.6: Calico Rocks
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

48.2: Point of Rocks
   Restrooms
   Groceries
   Canal Quarters
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

50.3: Bald Eagle Island
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

50.8: Lock 29 (Lander)
   Restrooms
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

54: Brunswick
   Restrooms
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

55: Brunswick
   Visitor Center
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

60.8: Harpers Ferry
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Lodging
   Parking

62.9: Huckleberry Hill
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

64.9: Dargan Bend
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

69.6: Antietam Creek
   Restrooms
   Car Accessible Camping
   Parking

72.7: Lock 38 (Shepherdstown)
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Lodging
   Parking

72.8: Ferry Hill
   Visitor Center
   Restrooms
   Parking

75.2: Killiansburg Cave
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping
76.6: Snyders Landing
   Restrooms
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

79.2: Horseshoe Bend
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

80.9: Taylors Landing
   Restrooms
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

82.7: Big Woods
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

84.4: Dam 4
   Parking

85.5: Big Slackwater
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

88.1: McMahons Mill
   Restrooms
   Parking

90.9: Opequon Junction
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

95.2: Cumberland Valley
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

99.2: Lock 44
   Restrooms
   Parking

99.8: Williamsport
   Visitor Center
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Lodging
   Bike Repairs/Rentals
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

101.2: Jordan Junction
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

106.8: Dam 5
   Restrooms
   Parking

109: Four Locks
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Canal Quarters
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

110: North Mountain
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

110.4: McCoys Ferry
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Car Accessible Camping
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

112.4: Fort Frederick State Park
   Food
   Picnic Tables
   Car Accessible Camping
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

113.8: Big Pool
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

116: Licking Creek
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

120.6: Little Pool
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

124.5: Little Tonoloway (Hancock)
   Visitor Center
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Lodging
   Bike Repairs/Rentals
   Boat Ramp
   Parking
126.4: White Rock
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

129.9: Leopards Mill
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

130.7: Cohill Station
   Canoe/Kayak Ramp
   Parking

133.6: Cacapon Junction
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

139.2: Indigo Neck
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

140.9: Fifteenmile Creek
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Car Accessible Camping
   Lodging
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

144.5: Devils Alley
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

149.4: Stickpile Hill
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

154.1: Sorrel Ridge
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

156.1: Paw Paw
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Car Accessible Camping
   Lodging
   Canoe/Kayak Ramp
   Parking

157.4: Purslane Run
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

162.1: Town Creek
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

164.8: Potomac Forks
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

166.7: Oldtown
   Restrooms
   Food
   Picnic Tables
   Parking

169.1: Pigmans Ferry
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

173.3: Spring Gap
   Restrooms
   Groceries
   Picnic Tables
   Car Accessible Camping
   Boat Ramp
   Parking

175.3 Irons Mountain
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

175.5: Lock 75 Area
   Restrooms
   Picnic Tables
   Parking

180.1: Evitts Creek
   Restrooms
   Hiker/Biker Camping

184.5: Cumberland
   Visitor Center
   Restrooms
   Food
   Groceries
   Lodging
   Bike Repairs/Rentals
   Parking
Connect with the C&O by visiting the following:

- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Website
- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Volunteer Website
- Canal Mobile Tour
- Twitter: @COcanalNPS
- Instagram: @chesapeakeandohiocanal
- Flickr: C&O Canal NHP
- YouTube: Chesapeake and Ohio Canal NHP
- Facebook: @chesapeakeandohiocanal

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park
Park Headquarters
1850 Dual Highway
Suite 100
Hagerstown, MD 21740
301-739-4200
www.nps.gov/choh