



# WELCOME

TO THE

## CHESAPEAKE & DELAWARE CANAL RECREATIONAL TRAIL

### PUBLIC WORKSHOP

*Delaware:*

*Gunning Bedford Middle School:  
January 15, 2008, 4:30 to 7:30 pm*

*Maryland:*

*Bohemia Manor High School  
January 16, 2008, 4:30 to 7:30 pm*

# AGENCIES / MUNICIPALITIES INVOLVED

## U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

## MARYLAND

- Congressman Wayne Gilchrest
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
- Cecil County, MD
- Chesapeake City, MD

## DELAWARE

- Congressman Michael Castle
- Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT)
- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC)
- New Castle County, DE
- Delaware City, DE
- St. Georges, DE



St. Georges Civic Association



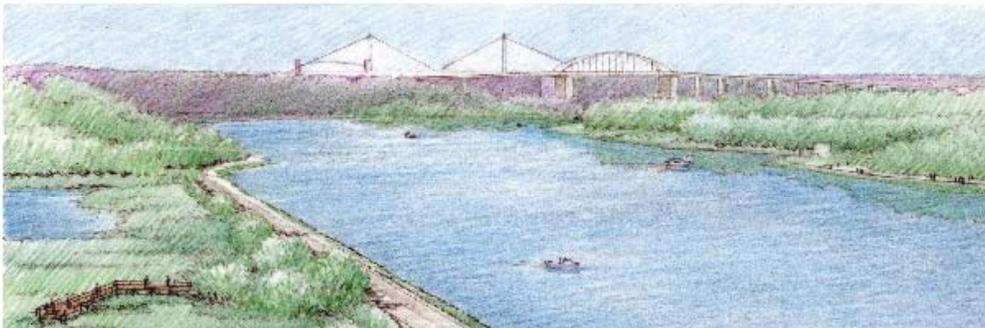
P.O. Box 204 St. Georges DE 19733  
836-8398

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# PROJECT HISTORY AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

- January 2005: USACE and Working Group began a study of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal's recreational potential.
- Two Public Open Houses, April 2005 and December 2005.
- March 2006: Study efforts culminate in the publication of the C&D Trail Concept Plan. Concept plan was made available on project website and local libraries/municipal buildings.
- Project web page of the US Army Corps of Engineers  
<http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm>
- March 2007: Initiate trail design (detailed plans and specifications).

## CHESAPEAKE & DELAWARE CANAL



TRAIL CONCEPT PLAN



MARCH 2006



PREPARED FOR:  
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS,  
PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT

PREPARED BY:  
ANDROPOGON ASSOCIATES LTD.

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# PROJECT GOALS

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- Provide, enhance, and encourage recreational activities along the Canal.
- Interconnect with open space and existing and future greenways and trails.
- Avoid and minimize impact to the natural resources.
- Restore the natural habitat by introducing a selection of native plant communities and by removing invasive exotic species.



*EXISTING SERVICE ROAD*

# C&D RECREATIONAL TRAIL

## PHASE I TRAILS:

- 17 miles of shared-use paved trail
  - 16 miles on the north side of the Canal:  
from Chesapeake City to Delaware City Trails
  - 1 mile on the south side of Canal:  
from west of Chesapeake City to Chesapeake City
- 13.5 miles of equestrian trail on both sides of the Canal
- Non-motorized trail uses only
- Park benches located along the trail for scenic watching and rest
- Mile markers and interpretive signage

## OTHER FUTURE PHASE TRAILS:

### *North side of canal:*

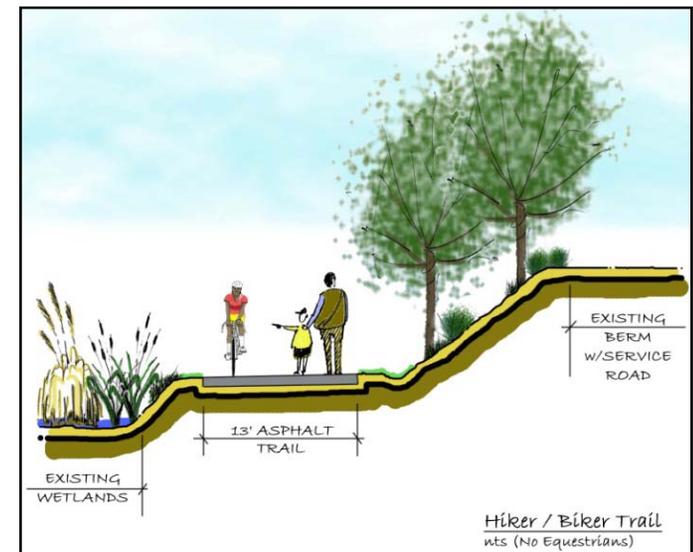
- Delaware City Trails and Promenade (by others)
- Grass Dale to Delaware City and Old Fort Du Pont

### *South side of canal:*

- Chesapeake City to Scott Run
- Reedy Point



*Proposed typical trail sections*



*Proposed typical trail sections*

# C&D RECREATIONAL TRAIL - TRAILHEADS

## PHASE I - TRAILHEAD LOCATIONS:

### *Maryland:*

- Chesapeake City North
- Chesapeake City South

### *Delaware:*

- Guthrie East 
- Summit Marina
- St. George's North
- Biddle Point 

 Equestrian Parking



EXISTING SERVICE ROAD

## TRAILHEAD AMENITIES:

- Convenient access points from public roads
- Paved parking lots for vehicles & equestrians
- Two unisex restrooms
- Picnic areas with benches and tables
- Equestrian mounting platform

**ALL AMENITIES ARE  
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE**

## FUTURE TRAILHEAD LOCATIONS:

### *Maryland:*

- USACE at C&D Canal Museum

### *Delaware:*

- Grass Dale
- Delaware City (by others)
- Reedy Point
- St. George's South
- Joy Run
- Summit Bridge South
- Bethel East

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# C&D RECREATIONAL TRAIL FACILITY

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## TRAIL OPERATIONS:

- Open from dawn to dusk
- No entrance fee
- Carry In – Carry Out trash policy
- Operations and enforcement by USACE/DNREC/MDDNR
- Future volunteer patrols

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE:

- Maintenance by USACE
- Potential future volunteer groups

## AMENITIES IN THE VICINITY:

- Fishing piers
- Dog training areas
- Hunting in designated areas
- Observing wildlife/bird watching
- Proximity to Lums Pond State Park, Ford Du Pont State Park, Grass Dale, county parks, wildlife areas and refuges, and wildlife management areas
- Access to services in:  
Chesapeake City, St. Georges,  
Delaware City, and Summit Marina



*EXISTING ENTRANCE SIGN*

# ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

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- Public Involvement – Workshop and NEPA comment period: January 2008
- Delaware City Trail Construction: Start Fall 2008
- C&D Trail, Phase 1 Design Completion: Fall 2008
- C&D Trail, Phase 1 Bid Advertisement: Fall 2008 – Spring 2009
- C&D Trail , Phase 1 Construction: Start Spring 2009\*

\* *Contingent upon availability of funding.*

# ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

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- The project follows the NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) process as implemented by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. An Environmental Assessment (EA) and Public Notice (PN) are being circulated for public review and comment.
- Copies of the EA can be obtained at [www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm](http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm)
- Copies of the PN can be obtained at tonight's meeting or at the above website.
- Written comments on the EA and PN can be sent to (by February 19, 2008):

Mr. Minas M. Arabatzis

Attn: Environmental Resources Branch, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East

Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

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- Approximately 2.1 acres (1.3 permanent, 0.8 temporary) of a Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) dominated wetland will be impacted by the Delaware City Branch Canal section of the trail.
- Mitigation Plan: restore approximately 13 acres of *Phragmites* marsh adjacent to the proposed trail to a native tidal freshwater wetland.



NEAR BRANCH CANAL

# DELAWARE CITY TRAIL AND PROMENADE

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