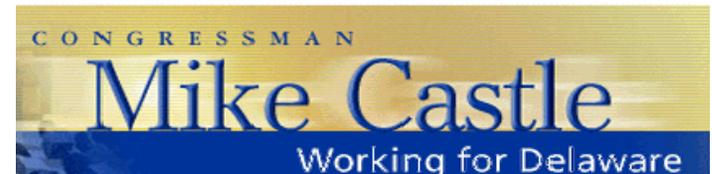


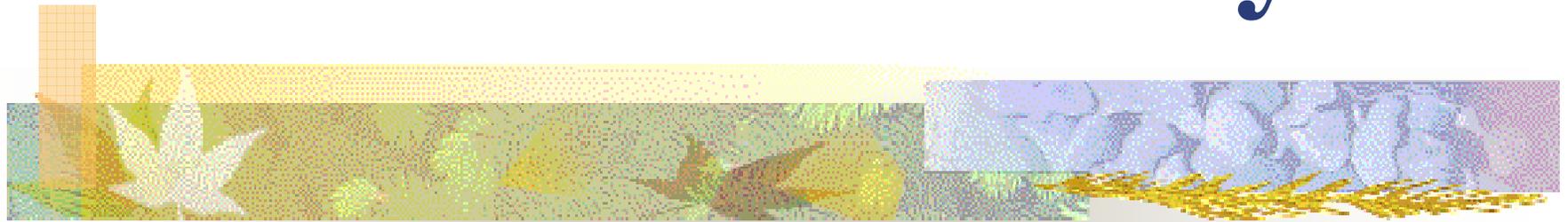
Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Recreation Study



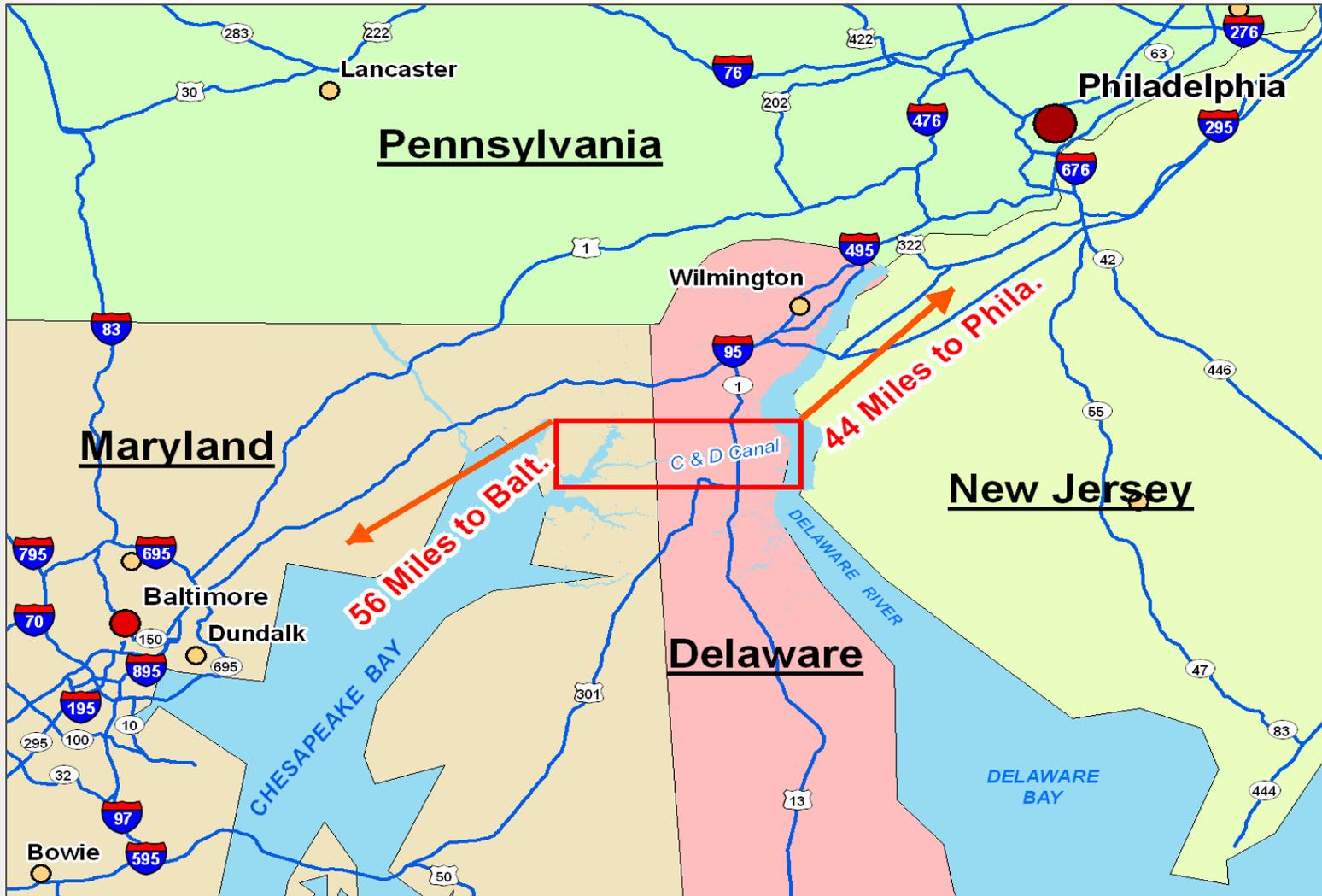
**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Philadelphia District**



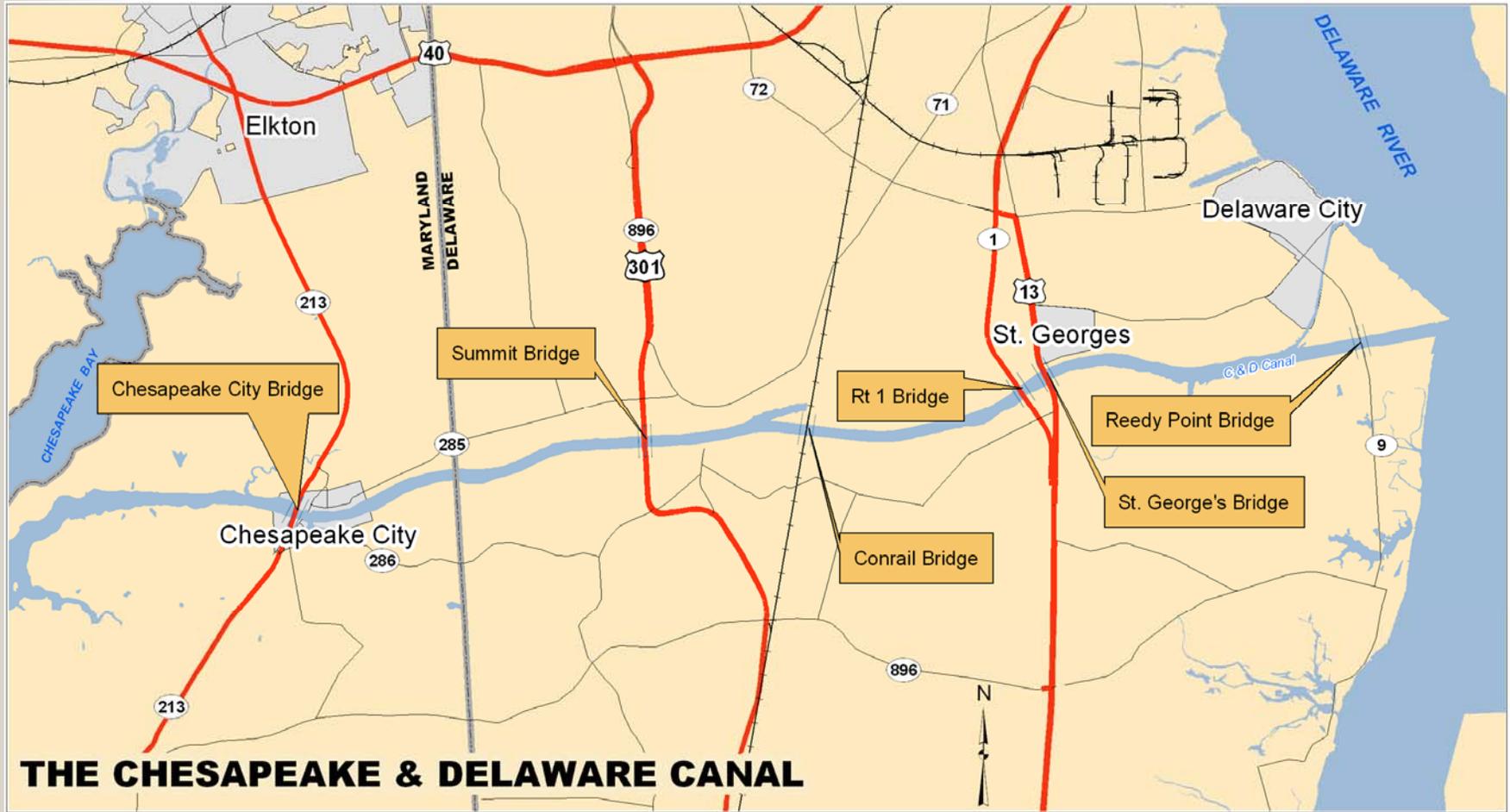
Chesapeake & Delaware Canal Recreation Study



“Connecting Two States”



Regional Area Map





Project Partners

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Congressman Michael N. Castle
- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- Delaware Department of Transportation
- New Castle County, Delaware
- Delaware Greenways
- Delaware City, Delaware
- St. Georges, Delaware
- Congressman Wayne Gilchrest
- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Maryland Greenways and Water Trails
- Cecil County, Maryland
- Chesapeake City, Maryland



Chesapeake & Delaware Canal

■ Specifications:

- 14 miles long (from DE to MD)
- Connects the Delaware River with the Chesapeake Bay & Port of Baltimore.
- Acres of land along the C&D Canal:
 - 4986 Acres in DE
 - 2706 Acres in MD
 - **TOTAL= 7692 Acres**



Chesapeake & Delaware Canal

■ **Current Uses:**

- **Carries 40% of all ship traffic in and out of the Port of Baltimore.**
- **Fishing, hunting, birding, horseback riding.**
- **Retriever dog training.**

■ **Long Standing Attractions:**

- **Historic towns, fish and wildlife, and bridges.**
- **Proximity to Fort DuPont & Lums Pond State Parks.**
- **Beautiful wetlands and surrounding landscape.**



Chesapeake & Delaware Canal

- **History:**
 - Only commercial waterway built in the 1800's still in use.
 - Only 1 of 2 commercially vital sea level canals in US.
 - Listed on national registry of historic places.
 - Designated a National Historic Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering Landmark.



Views of the C&D Canal:

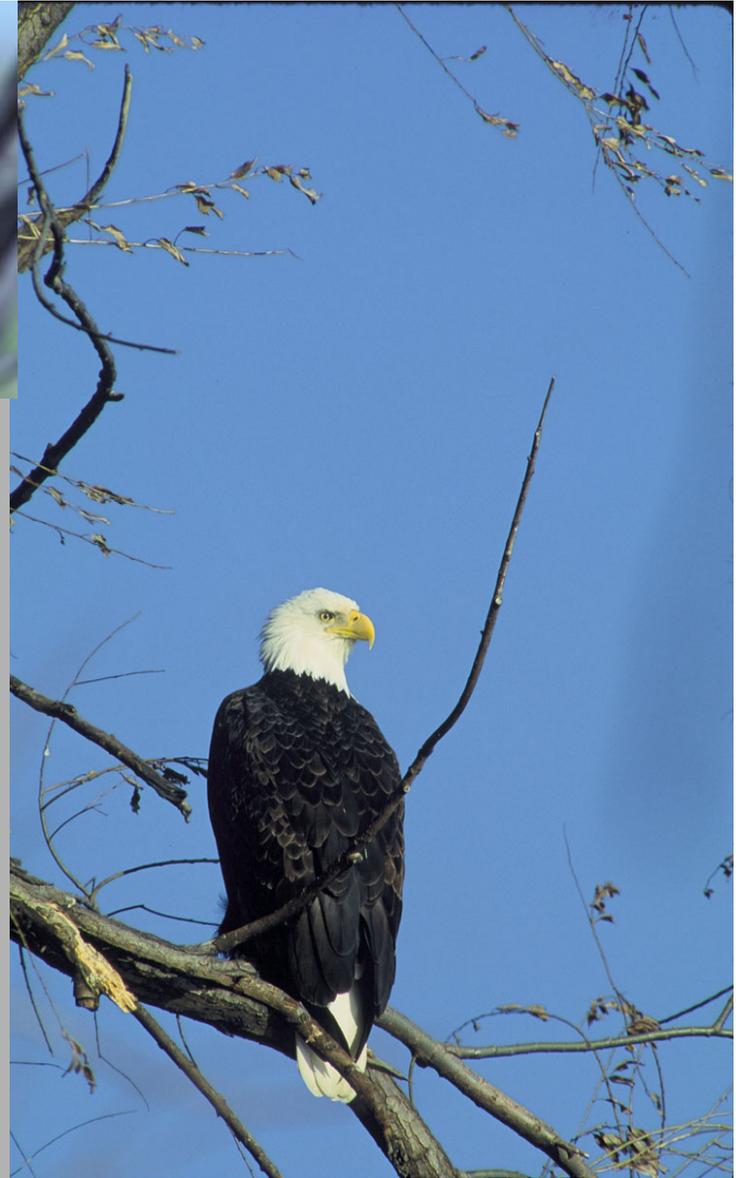
Aerial view of the SR 1 Bridge

View of an existing trail / maintenance road that runs alongside the C&D Canal





**Aerial view of the St. Georges Bridge and
C&D Canal**



C&D Wildlife/Birding

C&D Canal is home to a variety of wildlife including bald eagles, osprey, and hawks.

Year-round: raptors, gulls, finches, sparrows.

Spring, summer, and fall: shorebirds, waders, swallows, flycatchers, grosbeaks.



Chesapeake & Delaware Canal

- **C&D Canal is an underutilized recreational and educational resource.**
- **C&D Canal is in need of improved care and attention.**
- **Current issues**
 - **Unimproved roads**
 - **Illegal activities (dumping, etc.)**
 - **Access**



National Example to Follow: Cape Cod Canal, MA

- **Looked to Cape Cod Canal as guidepost:**
 - **Visitors Center**
 - **Shipwatching**
 - **Running and walking trails**
 - **Bicycling**
 - **Fishing Access**
 - **Recreational boating and camping**



Cape Cod Canal Recreational Opportunities:

- Hiking
- Bicycling
- Picnicking
- Fishing

Convenient Canal Access Points equipped with:

- Comfort stations
- Picnic areas
- Parking lots



Cape Cod Roads and Trails:

A network of service roads parallel both sides of the Cape Cod Canal.

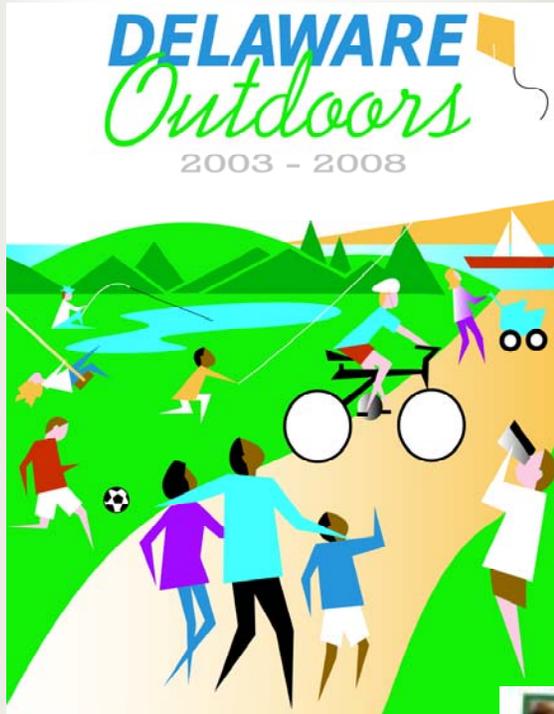
These service roads are available for walking, biking and jogging.



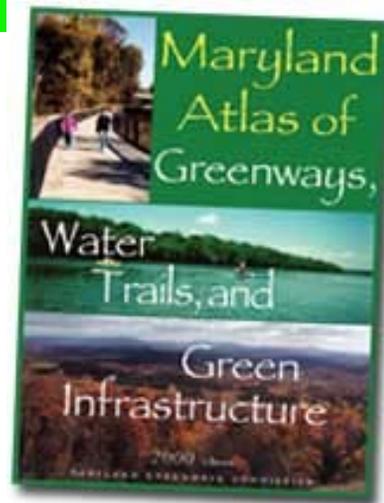


C&D Vision

- **Connecting Delaware and Maryland:**
 - **Multiuse path**
 - **Parking lot and restroom facilities**
 - **Interactive educational opportunities**
 - **Improved access points**
- **Canal will feature cooperation among Delaware and Maryland, New Castle and Cecil Counties, as well as, local municipalities of Chesapeake City, St. Georges, Delaware City.**
- **Public input will be an important part of the process.**



Delaware Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) – 2003



Cecil County's Land Preservation, Parks, and Recreation Plan - 2005 & Maryland Atlas of Greenways



Other potential recreation ideas based on previous public documents:

Canoe/Kayak Access	Mountain Bike Trails
Bike Paths	Equestrian Trails
Power Boat Access	Hiking Areas
Hunting Areas	ATV Trails
Fishing Areas	Picnic Areas
Playgrounds	Campgrounds



Steps Toward Realizing this Vision

- **U.S. Army Corps received funding in the Fiscal Year 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Conference Report for study of recreational opportunities along the C&D Canal.**
- **U.S. Army Corps, DelDOT, DNREC, New Castle County, Cecil County, MD DNR, as well as, other partners will work together to complete recreational study and seek public input.**



Recreational Study

Tentative Timeline

- **January-April 2005** – Collect geographic and spatial data of canal site to determine physical constraints and recreation feasibility.
- **April 2005** – Public meetings to discuss project scope and proposed recreational activities.
- **October 2005** – Draft alternatives are completed for public review.



Getting Involved

- **Show your support for the project by speaking with your community and local and state officials.**
- **Check out the project website at <http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Projects/CD/index.htm> with links to the C&D partner's websites.**