

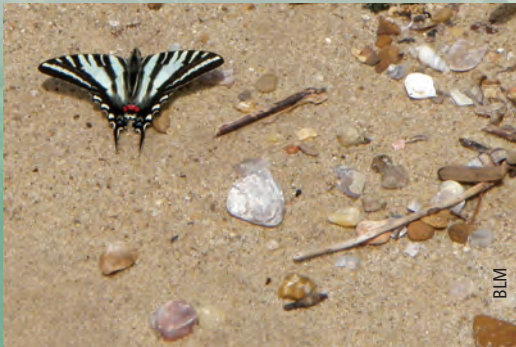
BLM – YOUR PUBLIC LANDS

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages more than 245 million acres of public land and 700 million acres of subsurface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM accomplishes its multiple-use mission by managing activities, such as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

As guardians of the past and stewards for the future, BLM-Eastern States is committed to sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands and resources spanning the 31 states east of and adjacent to the Mississippi River for present and future generations.

WELCOME

The Douglas Point Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) is comprised of 548 acres of undeveloped land in Charles County, Maryland, and provides a variety of resource-based outdoor recreation experiences, including the enjoyment of serene dense hardwood forests or calm expanses of the Lower Potomac River. The area is part of the Nanjemoy Natural Resource Management Area, managed jointly by the BLM, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and Charles County. Douglas Point is one of the most ecologically and culturally significant landscapes in the State of Maryland. The area’s outstanding natural attributes are equally matched by its archeological resources and history, including early American Indian sites, remnants from the Civil War, ruins of the colonial-era Chiles homesite, as well as dozens of World War I-era sunken ships, which now lie in Mallows Bay to the north.



RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

While at Douglas Point, visitors can enjoy approximately 2 miles of trails for hiking, mountain biking, and horseback riding. Also, Douglas Point is adjacent to MD 224 (Riverside Road), which is part of the Potomac Heritage Trail On-Road Bicycling Route. The area provides opportunities for fishing, beachcombing, dog walking, nature photography, and running. Because of the rich ecological diversity, the area is prime for wildlife viewing and is home to many game and nongame mammal species, including bats, foxes, masked shrew, opossum, otters, raccoon, skunk, white-trailed deer, and wild turkey. The area also hosts numerous waterfowl, wading birds, coastal plain migratory songbirds, and raptors and dozens of reptile and amphibian species.

RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



Dogs must be on a 6-foot or shorter leash.



Camping is not permitted.



Motorized vehicle use is prohibited on trails.



If embedded fossils are found, (1) leave the fossils in place and (2) notify the BLM. However, shark teeth, shells, and other fragmentary fossils found lying along the beach may be collected.



Specific information regarding hunting seasons, dates, and times can be found at www.dnr.state.md.us/huntersguide/index.asp.



Open sunrise to sunset.



LEAVE NO TRACE PRINCIPLES

Plan Ahead and Prepare

By planning and preparing for your trip, you can minimize your impact. Also, prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.

Dispose of Waste Properly

Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your area for trash, leftover food, and litter, and leave the area better than you found it.

Leave What You Find

Observe, but do not touch, cultural or historic structures or artifacts. Leave rocks, plants, and other natural objects as you find them, and avoid introducing or transporting nonnative species.

Respect Wildlife

Observe wildlife from a distance. Never feed animals, as it damages their health, alters natural behaviors, and exposes them to predators and other dangers. Control pets at all times.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

Be respectful and courteous of other visitors, and protect the quality of their experience. Yield to other users on the trails.

For more information, visit the Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor Ethics at www.lnt.org.

For emergencies, dial 911.

For more detailed information, contact us at:

Lower Potomac Field Station
10406 Gunston Rd.
Lorton, VA 22079
(703) 339-8009



http://www.blm.gov/es/st/en/fo/lpfo_html/douglas_point_history.html

e-mail:
blm_es_meadowood@blm.gov



DOUGLAS POINT SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA



TRAIL SYSTEM

The trail system features a segment of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail (www.nps.gov/pohe) and consists of approximately 2 miles open to all nonmotorized travel. The trail system is primarily made up of natural surface trails but does include a ¼-mile section of crushed aggregate universally accessible trail at the south end that leads to the ruins of the colonial-era Chiles homesite (www.wm.edu/sites/wmcar/research/chiles/index.php), which has been the focus of archaeological analysis. At the north end, a spur trail leads to a Potomac River overlook and a small beach that provides canoeists and kayakers water access to the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail (www.nps.gov/cajo) and the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail (www.nps.gov/stsp). There is also a 240-foot puncheon bridge (somewhat of a boardwalk) on the Blue Banks Beach Trail.



ACCESS TO DOUGLAS POINT SRMA

Visitors can gain access to Douglas Point SRMA at two trailheads with information kiosks and parking located at:

Douglas Point South Trailhead (Chiles homesite ruins): 9699 Riverside Rd., Nanjemoy, MD 20662

(Lat 38.442750°/Long -77.249703°)

Douglas Point North Trailhead: 9275 Riverside Rd., Nanjemoy, MD 20662 (Lat 38.456656°/Long -77.250398°)

