



MAP: Coan River

NAPSva.org/Coan

Paddling Routes (coming soon)



■ ← Find more paddling routes on our detail maps of Great Wicomico West, Great Wicomico Eest, Little Wicomico, Yeocomico, and Indian & Dividing Creeks.

> For paddling routes in other Virginia counties, visit VirginiaWaterTrails.org





Did you know Northumberland County has its own volunteer sea rescue service?

For over 50 years, Smith Point Sea Rescue has been "there when needed" to assist or rescue boaters - no charge! It monitors VHF Ch. 16 or can be dispatched through the Northumberland County Sheriff's Office or 911. Scan QR to

learn more or to make a donation.



Tides:

Scan QR for tide predictions at Travis Point, Coan River (site also links to the local marine weather forecast).

Average tidal range is 14 inches but can vary widely due to frequent coastal flooding.

The marshes at the headwaters of most of the creeks are secluded and full of wildlife. They are best explored near high tide, BUT PLAN CAREFULLY: Explore only while the tide is rising - A falling tide may leave you STRANDED!

Wind & Weather:

Scan QR for Weather Underground's Lottsburg forecast and live radar. Storms can develop very quickly, especially in the afternoons during spring and summer.

Moderate winds (13-20 mph) can cause significant wave action on the Great Wicomico River, but the creeks are mostly protected and can be comfortably navigated in most conditions.

Marine Charts:

Scan QR for NOAA Chart of this segment courtesy of WaterwayGuide.com (or download the Waterway Guide® or other marine charting app for IOS or Android)

Safety Checklist:

- ☐ Paddle with a buddy.
- ☐ Dress appropriately bring rain gear or poncho.
- ☐ Wear a personal flotation device (PFD) and/or paddleboard leash.
- ☐ Carry an extra paddle, a bilge pump or bailer, and a first aid kit.
- ☐ Leave a "float plan" with a friend let them know where you are going and when you plan to return.
- ☐ Watch for motorized watercraft and wakes. Carry a whistle and wear highly-visible clothing and hat. An orange flag mounted on a mast is recommended.
- ☐ Bring a smartphone and/or GPS receiver keep in a sealable bag with flotation (most smartphones will function normally while inside a baggie). A VHF radio is recommended.
- ☐ Bring charts and/or guides always know where you are.
- ☐ Bring water, snacks, insect repellant, and sunscreen.
- ☐ Be aware of tides, currents and wave action. Do not venture into the Chesapeake Bay or Potomac River unless you have the skills and preparation to navigate open, unprotected waters.

Emergency? Call 911 on mobile phone or MAYDAY on VHF-16

Stewardship Guidelines:

- Respect private property.
- "Leave no trace" dispose of all trash properly.
- View wildlife from a distance and do not disturb nests or dens. Do not touch or feed wildlife!
- Fishing requires a fishing license and knowledge of regulations.

