

C&O Canal Towpath Walks Y748 (MP 45 to 86)

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....1

Overview of Options.....2

Driving, Parking and Trail Directions for Y748.....6

Trail Map.....14

Park Planner.....15
(Eateries, Groceries, Restrooms, Water,
Camping, Bike Repairs, etc.)

Internet Resources.....17

MVA C&O CANAL YRE OVERVIEW Covering the Y747,748,749,753 Walks, and Y699 Bike Events



The Maryland Volkssport Association is deeply grateful to Merritt “Skip” Magee. Skip established this program, created the original directions, served as P.O.C. with mail-in registration for over a decade, and knows every meter of the towpath. Thank you so much Skip.

General Information: The C&O Canal National Historical Park winds its way 184.5 miles from Georgetown in Washington, DC to Cumberland in beautiful western Maryland. The trail, winding its way along a mostly well-kept towpath nestled between the Potomac River and the canal, is a trip through history, with 74 lift locks, restored lock houses, aqueducts, and the amazing mile-long Paw Paw tunnel. Walkers and cyclists will enjoy spectacular scenery, beautiful river vistas, and abundant wildlife along the trail. There is something here for everyone's pleasure, and the trails count towards many AVA Special Programs.

Walk Event 1 – Y747 (using parts of the towpath from MP 0 to 45)

1-Way Segment 1 Georgetown to Carderock - 17KM
1-Way Segment 2 Carderock to Seneca Aqueduct - 19KM
1-Way Segment 3 Seneca to Whites Ferry - 21 KM
1-Way Segment 4 Whites Ferry to Nolands Ferry – 14KM
Out and Back 11KM – Round trip from Carderock
Out and Back 10KM – Round trip from Fletcher’s Boat House

Walk Event 2 – Y748 (using MP 45 to 86)

1-Way Segment 5 Nolands Ferry to Brunswick - 17KM
1-Way Segment 6 Brunswick to Dargan Bend - 16KM
1-Way Segment 7 Dargan Bend to Lock 38 - 13 KM
1-Way Segment 8 Lock 38 to Dam 4 – 20KM
Out and Back 10KM – Round trip from Lock 38

Walk Event 3 – Y749 (using MP 86 to 141)

1-Way Segment 9 Dam 4 to Williamsport – 25KM
1-Way Segment 10 Williamsport to Ft Frederick – 20KM
1-Way Segment 11 Ft Frederick to Hancock – 19KM
1-Way Segment 12 Hancock to Little Orleans – 27KM
Out and Back 10KM – Round trip from Ft Frederick

Walk Event 4 – Y753 (using MP 141 to MP 184+)

1-Way Segment 13 Little Orleans to Paw Paw – 24KM
1-Way Segment 14 Paw Paw to Oldtown – 17 KM
1-Way Segment 15 Oldtown to North Branch – 14KM
1-Way Segment 16 North Branch to Cumberland – 15KM
Out and Back 10KM – Round trip from Paw Paw
(includes Paw Paw Tunnel)
Out and Back 10KM – Round trip from Little Orleans

Bike Event – Y699 (using MP 0 to 184+)

Bike any portion of the trail from at least 13 km to the entire 300 km (184.5 miles).

Many Trail Options: We offer many ways to enjoy the C&O Canal Towpath experience. As the table above indicates, **walks** can vary from 10 km to 300km, and **bikes** can vary from 13 km to 300 km. Either type can be one-way or out-and-back (round trip). The event documents herewith for the **walk** events have trail directions for specific start and finish points, and turnaround points (for

the out-and-back segments). The start, finish and turnaround points for **bike** events are entirely up to you to decide (although you are welcome to use trail directions for the walks).

The advantage of out-and-back trails, of course, is that you return to your parked car. For 1-Way trails, you might arrange a two-car team, with one car parked at the finish and another driven to the start. To do this for biking, both cars will need to accommodate all of the cyclists and their bicycles.



The location anywhere on the C&O Canal Towpath is usually specified by proximity to the Milepost number (MP), which is the distance in miles from the Eastern-most terminus at the “original” Watergate in Georgetown in Washington, DC. MP 0 is in Georgetown. MP 184 is one-half mile away from the Western-most terminus in Cumberland, Maryland.

Event 747: (using MP 0 to 45) 11K Out and Back from Carderock to Great Falls features beautiful river vistas, Olmsted Island, 6 locks, the famous Great falls Tavern and a National Park Service (NPS) visitor’s center. 10K out and back from Fletcher’s Boat House to Georgetown features 2 locks, Potomac River aqueduct ruins, and the Georgetown NPS Visitors Center. Segment 1, 17K, from Georgetown to Carderock features the Georgetown Visitor’s center and 14 locks. Segment 2, 19K, from Carderock to Seneca Aqueduct features Great Falls Tavern, 10 locks and Seneca Creek Aqueduct. Segment 3, 21K, from Seneca to Whites Ferry features the last active ferry on the Potomac and the Seneca Aqueduct. Segment 4, 14K, from Whites Ferry to Nolands Ferry features the spectacular seven arch, 560 foot Monocacy Aqueduct. All segments feature abundant wildlife and wonderful scenery.

Event 748: (using MP 45 to 86) 10K Out and Back from Lock 38 to the Antietam Creek Aqueduct features beautiful river vistas, lock 38, view of the Shepherdstown bluffs and Packhorse Ford. Segment 5, 17K, from Noland’s Ferry to Brunswick features a view of Furnace Mountain and, with a brief detour across the pivot bridge, the Victorian train station in Point of Rocks. Segment 6, 16K, from Brunswick to Dargan Bend features a gap through South Mountain ridge (the divide between Maryland’s Frederick and Washington counties), 6 locks, and the opportunity for a short detour into historic Harpers Ferry. Segment 7, 13K, from Dargan Bend to Lock 38 features the Antietam Creek Aqueduct. Segment 8, 20K, from Lock 38 to Big Slackwater features cliffs with caves, and Dam 4. All segments feature abundant wildlife and wonderful scenery.

Event 749: (using MP 86 to 141) 10K Out and Back from Fort Frederick (State Park) features the elegantly restored stone walls of Fort Frederick and the Big Pool canal area. Segment 9, 25K, from Dam 4 to Williamsport features cliffs and caves along Big Slackwater, McMahon’s Mill and the Visitor’s Center in Williamsport. Segment 10, 20K, from Williamsport to Fort Frederick features the National Park Service visitor’s Center in Williamsport, Conococheague Aqueduct, Dam 5, and

the handsome Fort Frederick. Segment 11, 19K, from Fort Frederick to Hancock features Fort Frederick, Big Pool, and Licking Creek Aqueduct. Segment 12, 27K, from Hancock to Little Orleans features interesting rock faces and beautiful views as the canal enters “The Endless Mountains”. All segments feature abundant wildlife and wonderful scenery.

Event 753: (using MP 141 to 184+) 10K out and back from Paw Paw features the remarkable Paw Paw canal tunnel. Almost a mile long, this engineering marvel is well worth seeing. Bring a flashlight. 10K out and back from Little Orleans features the 15 Mile Creek Aqueduct. Segment 13, 24K, from Little Orleans to Paw Paw features interesting scenery as the tow path runs beside Green Ridge State Forest and passes through the Paw Paw tunnel. Segment 14, 17K, from Paw Paw to Oldtown features Town Creek Aqueduct, and a nicely restored lock and lock house at Oldtown. Possible short side trips include the Potomac Forks at mile 164.8 and the low water toll bridge in Oldtown. Segment 15, 14K, from Oldtown to North Branch features 5 locks and some interesting vistas. Segment 16, 15K, from North Branch to Cumberland features the Evitts Creek Aqueduct and the canal terminus at Cumberland with its full size canal boat, the historic Western Maryland Railroad Station, and the excellent Park Service Visitor’s Center. All segments feature abundant wildlife and wonderful scenery.

Event Y 699: The entire C&O Canal Towpath is sanctioned for the bike event. You pick your distance 13km to 300km.

Trail Rating: All segments are rated 1B and are on mostly gravel but sometimes natural surfaces (and sometimes mud and puddles) along the towpath. Individual sections of the towpath may have a rough surface due to erosion caused by wear and wet weather. Strollers and Wheelchair users may have difficulty in places.

Start/Finish Times/Conditions: The towpath is accessible every day of the year. Only during periods of flooding, heavy snowfall, or maintenance would access be restricted. If in doubt, call the National Park Service (NPS) for park opening information. You may walk on the towpath only from dawn to dusk. Camping is available in designated areas; get info from the NPS. Leave yourself enough time to complete your walk before dusk. Pets must be leashed. Please clean up after them. The towpath is a trash-free park where you must carry out your refuse.

Transportation: Everyone is responsible for arranging their own transportation. It is best to walk the more remote segments with another individual or a group as you may be far from help if you need assistance. Cellphone service is spotty in some sections.

Refreshments: You must carry sufficient food and water to last throughout your walk. There are scattered locations where food and drink are available but their opening is seasonal so you should not rely on them. Water pumps are not available in hiker-biker camps between October and April. Do not rely on them for water.

Eligibility: Everyone is eligible to participate. An adult must accompany children under 12 at all times on the trails.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to make these walks safe and enjoyable. AVA, MVA and the National Park Service shall not be held responsible for lost or stolen items, accidents, or injuries at any time. If you are walking one of the remote segments, please remember to leave an itinerary with a close friend or relative in case of emergency.

A to Z note: The letters B, C, D, F, H, L, N, O, P, S, T, and W are available. Contact the POC for specific information.

Maryland counties note: Segments 1 thru 4 are in Montgomery County, Segments 4 thru 6 are in Frederick County, Segments 6 thru 12 are in Washington County and Segments 12 thru 16 are in Allegany County.

A number of good guides to the C&O Canal's history, structures and amenities are available including Towpath Guide to the C&O Canal, and The C&O Canal Companion. Books are available for purchase in all of the C&O Canal NPS Visitor Centers.

The C&O Canal “is a place of retreat, a long stretch of quiet and peace ...” Justice William O. Douglas, 1954

C&O Canal Driving and Parking Directions Y748 (MP 45 to 86)

- Segment 5 - 17 Km - Nolands Ferry to Brunswick (one-way)
- Segment 6 - 16 Km - Brunswick to Dargan Bend (one-way)
- Segment 7 - 13 Km - Dargan Bend to Lock 38 (one-way)
- Segment 8 - 20 Km - Lock 38 to Big Slackwater (one-way)
 - 10 Km - “Out & Back” from Lock 38 near Sharpsburg

Directions:

To Nolands Ferry (Google Maps: Nolands Ferry C&O Canal, 39.250149, -77.482112): From I-270 near Frederick, take exit 31B, Route 85 South. From I-70 in Frederick, take exit 54 and turn RIGHT at the stop light onto Route 355 for .7 miles to Route 85. Follow Route 85 South for ten miles Route 28. Turn RIGHT on Route 28 for .8 miles to New Design Road. Turn LEFT on New Design Road for .7 miles to Nolands Ferry.

From Nolands Ferry to Brunswick: Leave Nolands Ferry via New Design Road to the stop sign. Turn LEFT onto Route 28 West for 3.8 miles passing through Point of Rocks to Route 15. Turn RIGHT onto Route 15 North for one mile to Route 464. Turn LEFT onto Route 464 West (Brunswick/Harpers Ferry) for 6.7 miles to a traffic light. Proceed STRAIGHT through the intersection to a red flashing light. Continue STRAIGHT onto 9th Ave. Turn RIGHT onto Park Ave. Turn LEFT to stay on Park Ave. Turn RIGHT onto E. Potomac St. At the next traffic light, turn LEFT on Maple Ave to the MARC train station. Park in the lot on your right. You’ll need to walk across all of the tracks and turn right down the road toward the overpass to meet the towpath.

To Brunswick (Google Maps: CSX Brunswick, 39.311419, -77.627255): Take I-70 to Frederick and take exit 52, Route 340 West/Route 15 South toward Charlestown and Leesburg. After about four miles, Route 15 will split left but you will continue STRAIGHT on Route 340 for another eight miles. Take the Route 180 exit toward Petersville. Turn left at Route 79 to follow Petersville Road. At the traffic circle, take the 4th exit and stay on Petersville Road. Turn RIGHT onto N Maple Ave. Continue straight through the traffic light to the MARC train station. Park in the lot on your right. You’ll need to walk across all of the railroad tracks and turn right down the road toward the overpass to meet the towpath.

From Brunswick to Dargan Bend: Leave the MARC Station parking lot and turn LEFT onto Maple Avenue passing the American Legion on your right. At the first traffic light, turn LEFT onto Route 478 West (East Potomac St) for 2.3 miles to Route 180. Turn LEFT on Route 180 West (this road becomes an on-ramp) to Route 340 where you’ll merge from the left. Take Route 340 West for 1.7 miles to a LEFT exit for “Keep Tryst Road/Kennedy Farm.” Turn LEFT at the stop sign (in front of the Hillside Motel) for .2 miles to Sandy Hook Road. Turn RIGHT onto Sandy Hook Road for 3.9 miles. *It is very narrow and windy so please drive slowly.* Just before passing Lock 34 and a right turn, you’ll pass from Sandy Hook Road to Harpers Ferry Road. Stay on the main road as you pass Morgan Pines Road on your right and Pleasantville Road on your left as you continue uphill and then start back down. Turn LEFT onto Back Road for .8 miles to a LEFT turn into the Dargan Bend Recreation Area.

To Dargan Bend (Google Maps: Dargan Bend Boat Ramp, 39.363951, -77.740014): Take I-70 to Frederick and take exit 52, Route 340 West/Route 15 South toward Charlestown and Leesburg. After about four miles, Route 15 will split left but you will continue STRAIGHT on Route 340 West for 15.0 miles to a LEFT exit for “Keep Tryst Road/Kennedy Farm.” Turn LEFT at the stop sign (in front of the Hillside Motel) for .2 miles to Sandy Hook Road. Turn RIGHT onto Sandy Hook Road for 3.9 miles. *It is very narrow and windy so please drive slowly.* Just before passing Lock 34 and a right turn, you’ll pass from Sandy Hook Road to Harpers Ferry Road. Stay on the main road as you pass Morgan Pines Road on your right and Pleasantville Road on your left as you continue uphill and then start back down. Turn LEFT onto Back Road for .8 miles to a LEFT turn into the Dargan Bend Recreation Area.

From Dargan Bend to Lock 38: Leave Dargan Bend and turn LEFT onto Back Road (no sign) for 1.2 miles. Turn LEFT onto Dargan Road for .4 miles to Harpers Ferry Road. Turn LEFT onto Harpers Ferry Road for 3.6 miles to Canal Road. Turn LEFT on Canal Road for 3.4 miles passing “Antietam Creek” - *WATCH FOR THE 5 DIPS* - as Canal Road turns right up a hill, continue straight into the Lock 38 parking area.

To Lock 38 (Google Maps: Lock 38, 39.436629, -77.799772): From I-70 West, take exit 49 (alt 40/Braddock Heights/Middletown). Turn LEFT at the bottom of the ramp on Alt. 40 West for 11.2 miles to Boonsboro, passing through Braddock Heights and Middletown. At the first traffic light in Boonsboro, turn LEFT on Route 34 West for 9.4 miles until until you are across from the entrance to the C&O Canal National Historical Park Headquarters. *DO NOT CROSS THE BRIDGE INTO WV!* Turn LEFT on Canal Road to the bottom of the hill and Lock 38.

From Lock 38 to Big Slackwater: Return to the top of the hill on Canal Road and turn RIGHT on Route 34 East for 3.1 miles into Sharpsburg. Turn LEFT on Route 65 North for 3.2 miles passing the Antietam Battlefield. Turn LEFT on Taylors Landing Road for 3 miles to Woburn Road. Turn LEFT on Woburn Road for 1.2 miles to Dam No 4 Road. Turn LEFT on Dam No 4 Road for 1.6 miles to Dam No 4. Continue straight for an additional 1.2 miles to Big Slackwater.

Directions to Big Slackwater (Google Maps: Big Slackwater Boat Ramp, 39.500684, -77.844950): From I-70 West, take exit 49 (alt 40/Braddock Heights/Middletown). Turn LEFT at the bottom of the ramp on Alt. 40 West for 11.2 miles to Boonsboro, passing through Braddock Heights and Middletown. At the first traffic light in Boonsboro, turn LEFT on Route 34 West for 6.3 miles to Sharpsburg. In Sharpsburg, with an Amoco Station on the opposite corner, turn RIGHT on Route 65 North for 3.2 miles passing the Antietam Battlefield. Turn LEFT on Taylors Landing Road for 3 miles to Woburn Road. Turn LEFT on Woburn Road for 1.2 miles to Dam No 4 Road. Turn LEFT on Dam No 4 Road for 1.6 miles to Dam No 4. Continue straight for an additional 1.2 miles to Big Slackwater.

C&O Canal Trail Directions Y748 (MP 45 to 86)

Combined, the directions for the C&O Canal towpath cover 184.5 miles and hundreds of points of interest. Most of the information doesn't need updating, but some changes will occur due to Mother Nature, trail maintenance, and other factors. It is hard for the Event POC to keep apprised of such changes in order to keep the trail directions current. Please e-mail the POC with any changes you find on the trail. Fortunately it is somewhat hard to get lost on the trail since it for the most part parallels the Canal and the Potomac River, and there are very few turns. However, it is good to be aware of how far it is to water, food, shelter, toilets, emergency services and transportation.

Note on the numbering of trail directions: Step-by-step directions are introduced with a five-digit number indicating the distance in meters from the starting point **of the segment**. 00000 is the starting point for the segment. 01000 is 1,000 meters or 1 km up the trail from the starting point. 10000 is 10,000 meters or 10 km up the trail from the starting point. ...etc. MP is milepost (distance in miles **from the start of the towpath in Georgetown**). LL is a sequential number for each Lift Lock beginning with LL 1 in Georgetown. At each lock on the canal, look for small brown numbered signs. Some Lift Locks no longer exist, so their number may be skipped in the directions.

These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses are prohibited.



In case of Emergency: Dial 911
Event related assistance:
Darrell Neily: 301-466-4547

Y748/ Segment 5 - Nolands Ferry to Brunswick (17 Km)

- | | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|-------|---|--|
| 00000 | - | Nolands Ferry - From the parking lot, turn LEFT to keep the canal on your right and the Potomac River on your left. The railroad tracks will also be on your right. | 08620 | - | MP 50 |
| 00654 | - | Mile Post (MP) 45 | 09155 | - | Bald Eagle Island Hiker-Biker Camp |
| 02283 | - | MP 46 | 10061 | - | LL 29 (sign missing) |
| 03862 | - | MP 47 | 10263 | - | MP 51 |
| 04872 | - | Calico Rocks Hiker-Biker | 11096 | - | Catoctin Creek Aqueduct |
| 05746 | - | Point of Rocks (MP 48.2) | 11802 | - | MP 52 |
| 07015 | - | Lift Lock (LL) 28 | 13407 | - | MP 53 |
| 07139 | - | MP 49 | 14892 | - | MP 54 |
| | | | 15200 | - | Brunswick Family Campground - be alert for vehicles on the road. They have access until you reach the lot where you parked. The bathroom facilities at the |

campground are
available for your use.
15780 - Brunswick Wastewater
Plant
16588 - MP 55

16675 - Brunswick - After you
pass under the highway
bridge, take the road to
the right back to the
parking lot.

Y748/ Segment 6 - Brunswick to Dargan Bend (16 Km)

Leave your vehicle in the parking lot, cross all of the railroad tracks to the dirt road and turn RIGHT to the towpath.

00000 - Turn RIGHT past the NPS barrier gate on your right.

After a bit you'll begin to see white trail markings along the towpath. This is where the Appalachian Trail (AT) coincides with the towpath. When you reach Weverton, the AT will split from the towpath.

01423 - Mile Post (MP) 56
03072 - MP 57
04751 - MP 58
04797 - Lift Lock (LL) 31
04863 - Access from "Keep Tryst Road" on right
06372 - MP 59
07254 - Pass under Rt. 340
07899 - MP 60
08989 - Spiral staircase to the pedestrian bridge to Harpers Ferry, WV. It will take you onto the Main St of Harpers Ferry where you will find many National Park

Service exhibits, a rest room and a gift/book shop, the latter two in the second block on Main St. There are several restaurants and on the street up the hill on the way to the train station is a wonderful ice cream shop.

If you should detour to Harpers Ferry, return to Maryland via the pedestrian bridge, go down the stairs and turn LEFT to continue along the towpath, with Harpers Ferry and the Potomac River on your left. The canal will be on your right.

09054 - LL 53
09576 - MP 61
09670 - Maryland Heights Trail
10457 - LL 34
10635 - Wooden bridge
11097 - MP 62
11610 - Feeder Dam #3
11898 - LL 36
12596 - Huckleberry Hill Hiker-Biker Camp
12814 - MP 63
14277 - MP 64
15695 - Dargan Bend

Y748/ Segment 7 - Dargan Bend to Lock 38 (13 Km)

00000	-	Dargan Bend	11592	-	MP 72
00204	-	Mile Post (MP) 65	12249	-	Pass under R.R. trestle
00498	-	Wooden shack near two old abandoned limestone kilns	12469	-	Shepherdstown River Lock
00734	-	Cave opening on canal side	12698	-	LL 38
01749	-	MP 66			
03456	-	Lift Lock (LL) 37			
03538	-	MP 67			
03806	-	Mt. Lock Recreation Area			
05150	-	MP 68			
06668	-	MP 69			
07264	-	Antietam Creek Aqueduct			
07436	-	“Antietam Creek” sign			
08341	-	MP 70			
09510	-	Millers Sawmill			
09993	-	MP 71			
10200	-	Opposite Conocoheague Gun Club			

Y748/ Segment 8 - Lock 38 to Big Slackwater (20 Km)

- | | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|-------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 00000 | - | Lift Lock (LL) 38 | 06500 | - | Opposite Barron's Store |
| 00356 | - | Mile Post (MP) 73 | 06759 | - | MP 77 |
| 01948 | - | LL 39 | 08263 | - | MP 78 |
| 01969 | - | MP 74 | 09746 | - | MP 79 |
| 03490 | - | MP 75 | 10424 | - | LL 40 |
| 04126 | - | Killiansburg Cave Hiker-
Biker Camp | 10867 | - | Horseshoe Bend Hiker-
Biker Camp |
| 04454 | - | Killiansburg Cave | 11391 | - | MP 80 |
| 05134 | - | MP 76 | 12883 | - | MP 81 |
| 06426 | - | Snyders Landing - there
is a small store across the
road to your right and up
a bit called Barron's
Store. It is a very unique
building inside and if it's
open (only during the
summer), take a couple
of minutes to check it
out. Great ice cream! | 12917 | - | Taylor's Landing |
| | | | 14399 | - | MP 82 |
| | | | 15265 | - | Water pump |
| | | | 15483 | - | Big Woodshop Hiker-
Biker Camp |
| | | | 15878 | - | MP 83 |
| | | | 17436 | - | MP 84 |
| | | | 18811 | - | MP 85 |
| | | | 20186 | - | Big Slackwater |

Y748 - "Out & Back - Lock 38 to Antietam Creek and return (10 Km)

After parking your car at Lock 38,
cross the bridge to the towpath and
turn LEFT.

12698 - LL 38
12469 - Shepherdstown River
Lock
12249 - Pass under R.R. trestle
11592 - MP 72
10200 - Opposite Conocoheague
Gun Club
09993 - MP 71
09510 - Millers Sawmill
08341 - MP 70

07436 - "Antietam Creek" sign.
Turn around for return to
Start
08341 - MP 70
09510 - Millers Sawmill
09993 - MP 71
10200 - Opposite Conocoheague
Gun Club
11592 - MP 72
12249 - Pass under R.R. trestle
12469 - Shepherdstown River
Lock
12698 - LL 38

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal

National Historical Park





Visitor Center	Fee Area	Food	Lodging	Groceries	Bike Repairs/Rentals	Boat Ramp
Tent Camping	Parking	Camping-Fee Area	Restrooms	Picnic Tables	Boat Rentals	Canoe/Kayak Ramp
Canal Quarters	Hiking opportunities available park wide		<i>Commercial services are subject to change at any time</i>			

0.1 Thompson Boat House 	34.4 Turtle Run 	79.2 Horseshoe Bend 	126.4 White Rock
0.4 Georgetown 	35.5 Whites Ferry 	80.9 Taylors Landing 	129.9 Leopards Mill
3.1 Fletchers Cove 	38.2 Marble Quarry 	82.7 Big Woods 	130.7 Cohill Station
5.4 Lock 6 	42.2 Monocacy Aqueduct 	84.4 Dam 4 	133.6 Cacapon Junction
6.5 Sycamore Island 	42.5 Indian Flats 	85.5 Big Slackwater 	139.2 Indigo Neck
7 Lock 7 (Glen Echo) 	44.6 Nolands Ferry 	88.1 McMahons Mill 	140.9 Fifteenmile Creek
8.3 Lock 8 (Seven Locks) 	47.6 Calico Rocks 	90.9 Opequon Junction 	144.5 Devils Alley
8.8 Lock 10 (Seven Locks) 	48.2 Point of Rocks 	95.2 Cumberland Valley 	149.4 Stickpile Hill
10.5 Carderock 	50.3 Bald Eagle Island 	99.2 Lock 44 	154.1 Sorrel Ridge
11 Marsden Tract (Permit Required) 	50.8 Lock 29 (Lander) 	99.8 Williamsport 	156.1 Paw Paw
12.2 Anglers Access 	54 Brunswick 	101.2 Jordan Junction 	157.4 Purslane Run
14.3 Great Falls 	55 Brunswick 	106.8 Dam 5 	162.1 Town Creek
16.6 Lock 21 (Swains Lock) 	60.8 Harpers Ferry 	109 Four Locks 	164.8 Potomac Forks
19.6 Lock 22 (Pennyfield Lock) 	62.9 Huckleberry Hill 	110 North Mountain 	166.7 Oldtown
22.1 Lock 23 (Violettes Lock) 	64.9 Dargan Bend 	110.4 McCoys Ferry 	169.1 Pigmans Ferry
22.8 Seneca 	69.6 Antietam Creek 	112.4 Fort Frederick State Park 	173.3 Spring Gap
26.1 Horsepen Branch 	72.7 Lock 38 (Shepherdstown) 	113.8 Big Pool 	175.3 Irons Mountain
27.2 Sycamore Landing 	72.8 Ferry Hill 	116 Licking Creek 	175.5 Lock 75 Area
30.5 Chisel Branch 	75.2 Killiansburg Cave 	120.6 Little Pool 	180.1 Evitts Creek
30.8 Edwards Ferry 	76.6 Snyders Landing 	124.5 Little Tonoloway (Hancock) 	184.5 Terminus (Cumberland)

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

Drive-in Car Camping

Antietam Creek, McCoy's Ferry, Fifteenmile Creek, Paw Paw Tunnel, and Spring Gap. Sites are first come, first serve. \$20 per night/per site, \$10 mid Nov-mid April 8 people maximum per site.

Hiker-Biker Campsites

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

McCoy's Ferry, Fifteenmile Creek, Paw Paw, and Spring Gap. Sites are first come, first serve. Marsden Tract - permit required, obtain at www.recreation.gov \$40 per night, 35 maximum people per site. \$20 mid Nov.- mid April

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

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park

Park Headquarters
1850 Dual Highway
Suite 100
Hagerstown, MD 21740

301-739-4200
www.nps.gov/choh



2016 FIND YOUR PARK

National Park Service CENTENNIAL

Explore the Park

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 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.

Hiking (cont'd)

- 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/walk-in campgrounds
- Picnic areas
- All other hiking areas

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 also 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 Hours and Locations

Hours subject to change, please call visitor center for more information

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, (301) 582-0813
Memorial Day weekend - Labor Day, Hours: Friday-Sunday 11:00 - 4:00

Williamsport

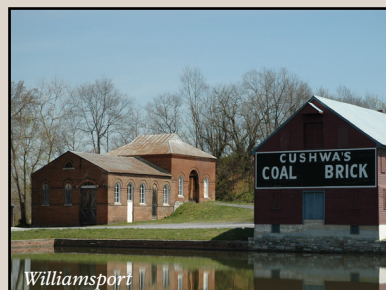
205 W. Potomac Williamsport, MD 21795, (301) 582-0813
Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 9:00-4:30, March-November

Hancock

439 East Main Street, Hancock, MD 21750, (301) 582-0813
Memorial Day weeknd-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



Other Ways to Enjoy the Park

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. Offered Memorial to Labor Day 2016.

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

Olmsted Island Bridges to Great Falls Overlook

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.

Billy Goat Trail Section C

Scenic river views and a small waterfall are encountered on this trail. Excellent wildflower and birding area.

Ford Mine Trail

Woodland trail leads over streams and across hills to remains of historic gold mining operations, dating 1880's through 1921.

Overlook Trail

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.

Billy Goat Trail Section A

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.

Paw Paw Tunnel Hill Trail

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.

Connect with the C&O by visiting the following:

2016 #FINDYOURPARK Events!

Visit <http://www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/calendar.htm> for more events and details!

- February 21: President's Day Grand Ball at Great Falls Tavern
- March 19: Irish and the Canal Commemoration at Great Falls Tavern
- May 7-8: 20th Maine Encampment at Great Falls Tavern
- May 20-21: Biodiversity Celebration at Great Falls and Williamsport
- June 4: Fishing Rodeos at Williamsport and Oldtown
- June 11-12: Cumberland Heritage Days
- August 5 - A Night at the Paw Paw Tunnel
- August 25, 2016: 100th Birthday of the National Park Service
- August 26-28: Williamsport Canal Days
- October 1-2: Brunswick Railroad Fest

Explore a Lockhouse

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

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/adults, \$6/seniors, \$5/children

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

Trails & Rails Program on the Capitol Limited

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	Times	Duration	Location
Weekends April-Oct Fri-Summer only	11am, 1:30pm, 3pm	1 hour	Great Falls Tavern 301-767-3714
Thursday through Sunday Memorial Day- Labor Day weekends	11am, 1:30pm, 3pm	1 hour	Williamsport 301-582-0813
Cumberland 301-722-8226	Vary	3 hours each way	Saturday April-September

Difficulty	Distance One-way	Location
Easy	0.2 miles	Great Falls
Moderate	1.6 miles	Carderock
Moderate	2.1 miles	Great Falls
Moderate	0.4 miles	Great Falls
Strenuous	1.7 miles	Great Falls
Strenuous	2 miles	Paw Paw Tunnel



www.nps.gov/choh



www.chohvip.org



choh.tourisphere.com



C&O Canal Towpath

Internet Resources



Check for trail construction and detours at: <https://www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/conditions.htm>

Be sure to log back into the OLSB system to complete your online registration after doing the walk:
<http://my.ava.org>

Photo Album: <https://goo.gl/photos/L1NSvJNvkQHN4XXA6>

Enjoy a slideshow of sights on the trail. We encourage you to upload your own photos and comments to this Google Photos web page, or e-mail them to dneily333@gmail.com

C&O Canal National Historic Park website: <https://www.nps.gov/choh/index.htm>

The C&O Canal Association has posted a comprehensive list of C&O canal access points with maps, GPS coordinates, and parking information at <http://www.candocanal.org/access.html>. This site also offers a great deal of information on canal history, news and activities.

C&O Canal Bicycling Guide: http://bikewashington.org/canal/canal_a.php

Restaurants and Lodging in Georgetown (Washington, DC):
https://www.yelp.com/search?find_loc=Georgetown,+Washington,+DC

Restaurants and Lodging in Hancock, Maryland:
https://www.yelp.com/search?find_desc=&find_loc=Hancock%2C+MD&ns=1

Restaurants and Lodging in Cumberland, Maryland:
https://www.yelp.com/search?find_loc=Cumberland,+MD

Maryland Volkssport Association: Portal for all Maryland volkssport events and clubs:
<http://www.mdvolks.org>

Roads Scholar: offers “fully supported” cycling trips along parts or full length of the C&O Canal. You can earn IVV credit for the Y0699 volksbike event using this service, but must first register and pay the fee for IVV credit and trail directions on the OLSB: <https://www.roadscholar.org/find-an-adventure/13306/biking-the-c-o-canal-towpath>