

BOAT SAFE - BOAT SMART

- ◆ Always wear a properly-fitted, U.S. Coast Guard approved, lifejacket while on the water. (See Maryland Boating Regulations www.dnr.state.md.us/boating)
- ◆ Boating safety increases with numbers. Boat with others and leave a trip plan with others before launching.
- ◆ Know your route and review maps, navigation aids before you go. Be aware of hazards and obstacles you may encounter in the water such as sandbars and debris.
- ◆ Dress appropriately for weather and/or water conditions, including air and water temperature.
- ◆ Carry a supply of food and water adequate for the length of your trip. Stay well-hydrated and protected from the sun year-round to minimize the danger of dehydration and heat exhaustion.
- ◆ Be alert to possible weather changes. Squalls and thunderstorms are common during the warm months, usually accompanied by temperature drops, increased winds and dark clouds. Get off the water immediately if you see lightning.

LEAVE NO TRACE

- ◆ Plan ahead and be prepared
- ◆ Stay in designated areas
- ◆ Properly dispose of all waste
- ◆ Leave what you find and be considerate of others around you
- ◆ Respect our natural and cultural heritage by leaving all items as you found them
- ◆ Keep noise to a minimum - Enjoy the music of nature and don't disturb animals or others
- ◆ Respect private property and the privacy of others - Do not trespass



PUBLIC LANDING REGULATIONS

- ◆ Landings are closed between sunset and sunrise; with the exception of loading and unloading boats
- ◆ Do not block ramps, parked vehicles, bulkheads or access to piers
- ◆ No overnight parking, camping, Night fishing or open fires
- ◆ Obey "No Fishing or Crabbing" signs where posted
- ◆ Do not leave boats or equipment at landing
- ◆ Do not leave residential trash in trash cans
- ◆ No alcohol consumption at landings
- ◆ No glass bottles or containers; no littering

BOATING COURTESY

Take the time to practice some common boat ramp courtesy. You will be much happier, and those around you will thank you for it.

- ◆ Use common courtesy. Don't park your boat on the ramp while retrieving your tow vehicle. Park at a dock, or beach it off the ramp.
- ◆ Be Prepared. Make sure you have everything that goes in the boat before you get to the ramp. Don't wait until you back the boat down to the water to unstrap and untie.
- ◆ Watch your wake! - When overtaking a slower vessel in open water, leave as much room as depth conditions allow and slow your speed, to avoid rocking the other vessel.
- ◆ Be especially cautious of smaller vessels such as canoes or kayaks which may be less stable and have a tendency to tip due to large wakes.
- ◆ Avoid creating an excessive wake in narrow confined areas where your wake may cause erosion of the shoreline.
- ◆ Operate slowly at all times when in the vicinity of marinas and launch ramps.

The information in this brochure is provided for general information purposes only. The rules and regulations are required for public safety and enjoyment.

For questions regarding operations or maintenance at any of the County-owned access sites contact the Parks Division at 301-863-8400 ext. 3570.



St. Mary's County Department of Recreation and Parks

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www.co.saint-marys.md.us/recreate

This guide was produced through a partnership between the Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources and the Commissioners of St. Mary's County



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ST. MARY'S COUNTY RECREATION AND PARKS

GUIDE TO PUBLIC BOATING ACCESS



BOAT RAMPS SOFT LAUNCH SITES AND PIERS

COUNTY BOAT RAMPS

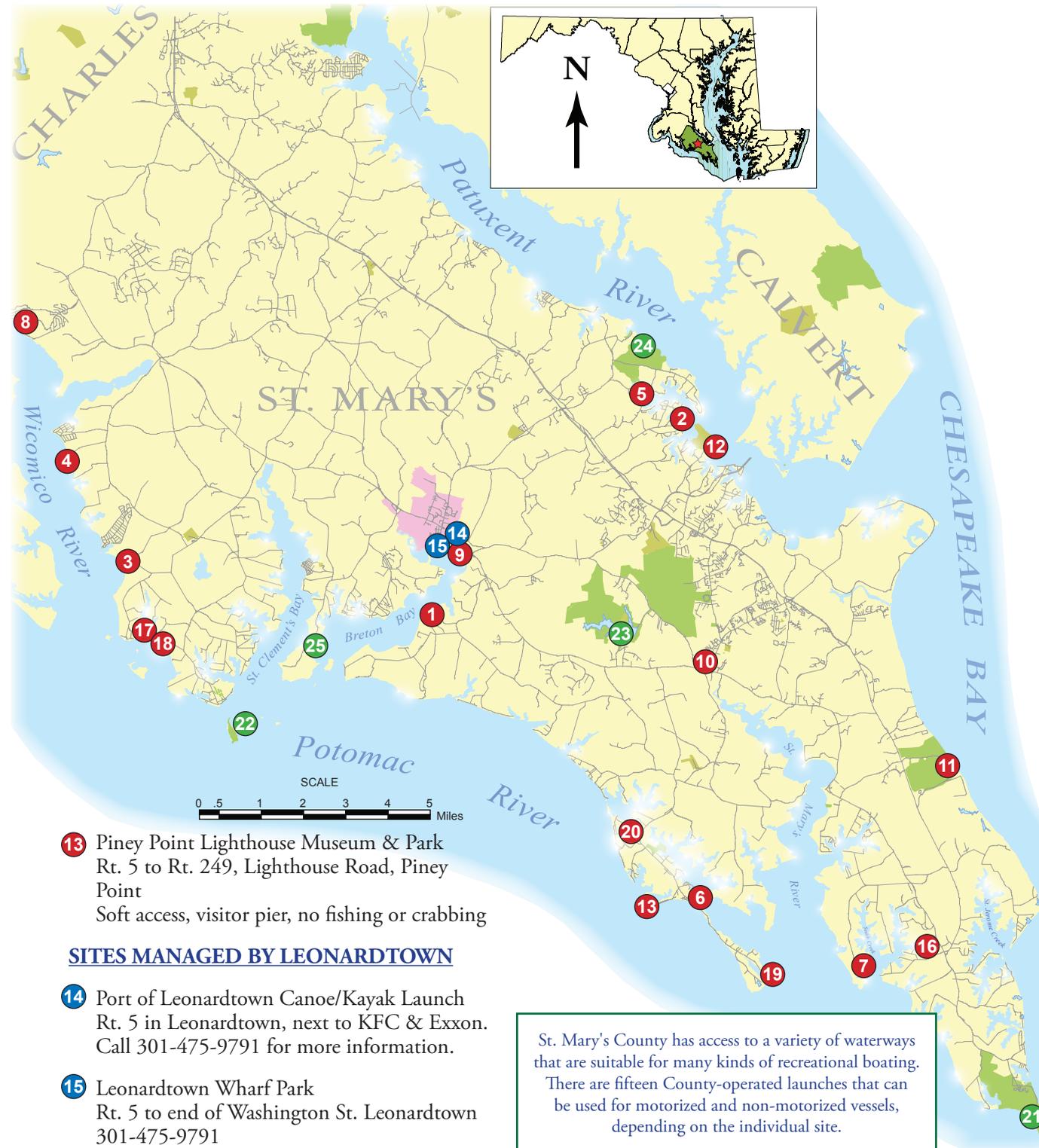
(for motorized and non-motorized vessels)

- 1 Abell's Wharf
Rt. 5 to Rt. 244 to Abell's Wharf Road, Leonardtown.
- 2 Clarke's Landing
Rt. 235 to end of Clarke's Landing Road, Hollywood. Boat ramp only; limited parking
- 3 Bushwood Wharf
Rt. 242 to end of Rt. 239, Bushwood
- 4 Chaptico Wharf
Rt. 234 to Rt. 238 to end of Chaptico Wharf Road, Maddox
- 5 Forest Landing
Rt. 235 to Sotterley Road to Forest Landing Road, Hollywood
- 6 Piney Point Landing
Rt. 5 to Rt. 249, before St. George's Island Bridge, Piney Point
- 7 St. Inigoes Landing
Rt. 5 to end of Beachville Road, St. Inigoes
- 8 Wicomico Shores Landing
Rt. 234 to Aviation Yacht Club Rd., turn right onto Army Navy Drive

SOFT LAUNCH SITES

(non-motorized vessels only)

- 9 Camp Calvert Landing
Rt. 5, end of Camp Calvert Road, Leonardtown
Limited parking
- 10 Great Mills Canoe/Kayak Launch
Rt. 5, Great Mills
- 11 Elms Beach Park
Rt. 235, Bay Forest Road, Dameron
Soft access at beach
- 12 Myrtle Point Park
Rt. 4, Patuxent Boulevard, California
Soft access at beach



- 13 Piney Point Lighthouse Museum & Park
Rt. 5 to Rt. 249, Lighthouse Road, Piney Point
Soft access, visitor pier, no fishing or crabbing
- 14 Port of Leonardtown Canoe/Kayak Launch
Rt. 5 in Leonardtown, next to KFC & Exxon.
Call 301-475-9791 for more information.
- 15 Leonardtown Wharf Park
Rt. 5 to end of Washington St. Leonardtown
301-475-9791

SITES MANAGED BY LEONARDTOWN

St. Mary's County has access to a variety of waterways that are suitable for many kinds of recreational boating. There are fifteen County-operated launches that can be used for motorized and non-motorized vessels, depending on the individual site.

PIER ACCESS

(no ramp or beach access)

- 16 Fox Harbor Landing
Rt. 5 to Rt. 252 to Fox Harbor Road to End of Dunbar Lane, Wynne
Minimal parking, No fishing/crabbing
- 17 Paul Ellis Landing
Rt. 242, end of Paul Ellis Road, Avenue
Minimal parking
- 18 River Springs Landing
Rt. 242, end of River Springs Road, Avenue
Minimal parking
- 19 St. George Island Landing
Rt. 5, Thomas Road, St. George Island
Minimal parking
- 20 Tall Timbers Landing
Rt. 5 to Rt. 249, end of Tall Timbers Road, Tall Timbers. Minimal parking

ACCESS AT STATE PARKS

- 21 Point Lookout State Park
Rt. 5 Point Lookout, Scotland
boat ramps, soft launch and fishing pier
- 22 St. Clement's Island State Park
Rt. 242 to Coltons Point
Only accessible by boat and water taxi, transient docking, soft launch, and pier
- 23 St. Mary's River State Park
Rt. 5, Camp Cosoma Road, Leonardtown
Boat ramp (electric motors only), soft launch, and fishing pier
- 24 Greenwell State Park
Rt. 235 to Sotterley Road to Steer Horn Neck Road, Hollywood
Soft launch, fishing pier
- 25 Newtowne Neck State Park
Rt. 5 to Rt. 243
Soft launch

For more information boating in Maryland State Parks visit www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/