

## Rules & Tips for Paddling Safely

- County operated public landings are closed between sunset and sunrise.
- No overnight parking, camping, or open fires at public landings.
- No glass bottles or containers and no littering at landings; paddlers are encouraged to adopt the “carry-in, carry-out policy.”
- Always leave word with someone about your paddling plans.
- Always check the weather forecast before paddling; weather can change suddenly and create dangerous conditions. Calm conditions in sheltered areas can easily disguise more hazardous conditions offshore.
- Always wear a personal flotation device (PFD) or life jacket.
- Carrying a cellular phone is a good idea, though some areas may have weak coverage.
- Please be aware that most of the shoreline in St. Mary’s County is privately owned and trespassing is unlawful.



St. Mary’s County Department of Recreation and Parks is interested in promoting canoe/kayaking opportunities in local waterways. Please call Ken Spring, with the Calvert Marine Museum Canoe and Kayak Club, at [springK@hughes.net](mailto:springK@hughes.net) if you would like to join the club and participate in activities.

Kayak handling classes are periodically offered at the Great Mills Swimming Pool. Please call the pool at (301) 866-6560 for more information.

*The information contained in this brochure is provided for general information purposes only. Rules and tips are provided for public safety and enjoyment.*



*Board of Commissioners  
for St. Mary’s County*  
Francis Jack Russell, President,  
Kenneth R. Dement,  
Lawrence D. Jarboe, Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.,  
& Daniel H. Raley

## Paddling Scenic Waterways in St. Mary’s County



*Downstream from Great Mills  
Canoe/Kayak Launch – St. Mary’s  
River Water Trail.*

**St. Mary’s County  
Recreation & Parks  
P.O. Box 653  
Leonardtown, MD 20650  
Phone: (301) 475-4200 x. 1800  
Fax: (301) 475-4108**

## Canoe/Kayak Launch Areas

St. Mary's County has fifteen County owned and operated public landings - all of which can be used to launch canoes and kayaks. Some have piers, boat ramps for motorized boats, and some are only suitable for canoe and kayak launching (see below). A complete listing of public water access points can be found on our website or in our *Guide to Public Landings and Water Access brochure*.

- 1** ***Camp Calvert Landing***  
MD 5, end of Camp Calvert Road, on Breton Bay, Leonardtown
- 2** ***Great Mills Canoe/Kayak Launch***  
MD 5, Great Mills; St. Mary's River Water Trail; pull out at end of Adkins Road or MD 5 in St. Mary's City
- 3** ***Paul Ellis Landing***  
MD 242, end of Paul Ellis Road, White's Neck Creek, Avenue
- 4** ***St. George Island Landing***  
MD 5, Thomas Road, St. George Creek, St. George Island
- 5** ***Tall Timbers Landing***  
MD 5 to MD 249, end of Tall Timbers Road, Herring Creek, Tall Timbers

### Town of Leonardtown Sites

- 6** ***McIntosh Run Canoe/Kayak Launch***  
MD 5 in Leonardtown, next to KFC & Exxon; pull out at Camp Calvert Landing or Leonardtown Wharf

- 7** ***Leonardtown Wharf Park***  
MD 5 to end of Washington Street, Leonardtown. Visit, tie-up or pull-out.

## County and State Waterfront Parks for Launching and/or Rest Stops

### County Parks

- 8** ***Elms Beach Park***  
MD 235, Bay Forest Road; open water of Chesapeake Bay, Dameron. Launch or visit by water.
- 9** ***Myrtle Point Park***  
MD 4, Patuxent Boulevard; paddle Mill Creek or Patuxent River; California. Launch or visit by water.
- 10** ***Piney Point Lighthouse, Museum and Park***  
MD 5 to MD 249 Lighthouse Road, Piney Point. No launch area; paddlers may visit by water.

For additional information on County parks, please visit our website at [www.co.saint-marys.md.us/recreate/facilities](http://www.co.saint-marys.md.us/recreate/facilities)



### State Parks

- 11** ***Point Lookout State Park***  
MD 5, Point Lookout; paddle Point Lookout Creek, Potomac River or Chesapeake Bay. Launch or visit by water.
- 12** ***St. Clement's Island State Park***  
MD 242 to Colton's Point; paddle St. Clement's Bay or Potomac River. Paddlers may visit the park by water.
- 13** ***St. Mary's River State Park***  
MD 5, Camp Cosoma Road, Leonardtown. Citizens are welcome to paddle the lake.
- 14** ***Greenwell State Park***  
MD 235 to Sotterley Road to Steer Horn Neck Road, Patuxent River, Hollywood. Launch or visit park by water.

For more information on State parks, please visit the Department of Natural Resources website at [www.dnr.state.md.us](http://www.dnr.state.md.us)