THE PATUXENT CHALLENGE

The Patuxent River is the largest river completely within Maryland. 115 miles long, a watershed of over 900 square miles. It was designated one of Maryland’s most scenic rivers in 1968 and is full of history, culture, and natural beauty. Seven counties lie within the watershed and offer a diversity of outdoor activities. By completing this challenge, you will experience a different Patuxent River with each activity as it changes from its headwaters to the Chesapeake Bay.

Share your adventures on social media using #PatuxentChallenge

Patuxent River, tributary streams and wetlands
Patuxent River Watershed

For more information, visit www.patuxentchallenge.org

Take the PATUXENT CHALLENGE

• PARTICIPATE in a variety of outdoor activities throughout the Patuxent River watershed.
• COMPLETE one activity per county plus the City of Laurel in a calendar year (8 total activities).
• DOCUMENT your participation by taking a selfie with each activity’s Patuxent Challenge sign.
• CLAIM your prize: Email your mailing address* and your selfie pics to PatuxentChallenge@gmail.com.

#PatuxentChallenge
*Only one prize per mailing address.

For more information, visit www.patuxentchallenge.org
HIKE @ RIVERFRONT PARK

**CITY OF LAUREL**
Avondale Street, Laurel, MD 20707
SIGN LOCATION: Trail Head
Enjoy a hike through scenic wetlands and historic dam ruins on the 1.5 mile paved trail at Riverfront Park. This park is also located next to the Laurel Museum. There is no admission fee. Park is open seven days a week; dawn to dusk.
301-725-7800
http://www.cityoflaurel.org/parks/facilities/riverfront-park

HIKE @ GOVERNOR BRIDGE NATURAL AREA

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
7600 Governor Bridge Road, Bowie, MD 20716
SIGN LOCATION: Red Trail
Enjoy a 0.75 mile hike through wildflowers and mature hardwood forest to a scenic overlook of the Patuxent River. There is no admission fee. Park is open daily from 8:00am to dusk.
301-627-6074

FISHING @ PATUXENT WETLANDS PARK

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
1426 Mt. Zion Marlboro Road, Lothian, MD 20711
SIGN LOCATION: Fishing Pier
Cast your line from the Patuxent Wetlands Park fishing pier to catch the big one. Common species include blue and channel catfish, white and yellow perch, northern snakehead, and largemouth bass. Persons 16 or older are required to have a valid Maryland Chesapeake Bay & Coastal Sport Fishing License. No admission fees. Park is open dawn to dusk. Site is located at end of Marlboro Road.
410-714-9530
http://www.jugbay.org/visit_us/details/MCP
to http://www.sotterley.org

HIKE @ GLENDENNING NATURE PRESERVE

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
1290 Wrighton Road, Lothian, MD 20711
SIGN LOCATION: Chris Swarth Boardwalk off Cliffs Trail
Experience the marsh up close with a 0.6 mile hike along a forested bluff to the Chris Swarth Boardwalk. No admissions fee. Parking and trail maps are located at the Wrighton Road entrance of the Glendinning Preserve; open daily from 8:00am to dusk. Reservations are not required.
410-714-9330
http://www.jugbay.org/visit_us/details/GNP
http://www.sotterley.org

PADDLE @ JUG BAY NATURAL AREA

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY
16600 Gunpoint Road Airport, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772
SIGN LOCATION: Canoe Launch @ Jackson’s Landing Rent (or bring your own) canoe or kayak to explore the freshwater tidal marshes of the Patuxent River by water. Daily canoe/kayak rentals are available April through October. There is no admission fee. Park is open daily 8am to dusk.

PADDLE @ KINGS LANDING PARK

CALVERT COUNTY
3255 Kings Landing Road, Huntingtown MD 20639
SIGN LOCATION: Fishing Pier
Bring your own canoe, kayak, or stand up paddleboard to explore the middle Patuxent and this brackish water estuary. Canoe/kayak/paddleboard rentals may be available in 2018; call for more information. There is no admission fee. Park is open daily from 9:00AM to 8:00PM Memorial Day to Labor Day; 9:00AM to 5:00PM Labor Day to Memorial Day. 410-535-2661
http://www.co.cal.md.us/kingslandpark

PADDLE @ MAXWELL HALL PARK

CHARLES COUNTY
6680 Maxwell Drive, Hughesville, MD 20637
SIGN LOCATION: Beach Rest Area off Blue Trail
Hike the 2.8 mile Blue Trail loop through fields and forests to the peaceful beach rest area. Pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the scenic view of the Patuxent River. Park is open daily from 8:00AM to dusk.
301-932-3470
http://www.charlescountymd.gov/location/maxwell-hall-park

HIKE @ JEFFERSON PATTERSON PARK AND MUSEUM

CALVERT COUNTY
10515 Mackall Road, St. Leonard, MD 20685
SIGN LOCATION: Along Village Trail
This ADA-accessible trail begins across from the Pavilion and takes visitors to the replica Indian Village. Along the way, interpretive signs talk about the changes in the environment and landscape in the past 400 years, as well as the Eastern Woodland Indian culture of past, present, and future. Open dawn to dusk except for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day. 410-586-8501
http://www.jpfst.org/

#13 HIKE @ HISTORIC SOTTERLEY PLANTATION

ST. MARY’S COUNTY
4300 Sotterley Road, Hollywood, MD 20636
SIGN LOCATION: At the Visitors Center
Whether you come by car or boat, experience 300 years of history at Sotterley, with 94 acres, over 20 historic buildings including a 1791 Plantation House and 1839’s Slave Cabin, Colonial Revival Gardens and more. Guest can hike almost 6 miles on Sotterley’s trail system, to include overlooks of Sotterley Creek and the Patuxent River. The Visitor Center is open May 1 – Oct. 31 for the Guided Tour season: Tues. – Sat. from 10:00AM – 4:00PM and Sunday from Noon – 4:00PM. The site is open year round for self-guided tours, and guests still enjoy their visit at the Visitor Center. Fees for ages 6 and up range from $5.00 to $10.00, and full information about visiting and fees can be found online. 301-793-2280
http://www.sotterley.org

#14 WALK, WADE, BEACH-COMB @ MYRTLE POINT PARK

ST. MARY’S COUNTY
SIGN LOCATION: Along Wet Soot Trail
This 0.2 mile beach trail begins at a picnic area and offers beautiful views of the Solomon’s Bridge and access to the park’s beach and favorite fishing spots. Continue the woods past the beach to return to the main parking area along a rolling grassy lane. Fee when gates are open: County resident $5.00 per vehicle; Out of County resident $10.00 per vehicle. Park is open dawn to dusk from sunrise to sunset (except for special evening and night activities). During the winter months, gates are closed but the park is open for use by pedestrians who may park at the entrance and walk into the park. 301-475-4104*1800 24050 Patuxent Boulevard, California, MD 20619 http://www.stmarysmd.com/recreate/myrtlepointpark.asp

Use of #PatuxentChallenge on social media sites is intended exclusively to promote and share recreational enjoyment of the Patuxent River. When utilizing #PatuxentChallenge, please refrain from posting any copyrighted, unauthorized, unlawful, profane, obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, abusive, slanderous, hateful, or embarrassing to others; or third party commercial advertising or promotion. Views and opinions expressed while utilizing #PatuxentChallenge do not necessarily represent those of the Patuxent River Commission or other sponsors.