

VIRGINIA CANOE PROGRAM

Locations throughout the state

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's Virginia Canoe Rig Program is a one day, hands-on, active educational experience that gives students the opportunity to investigate and explore a local waterway and learn about its connection to the Chesapeake Bay. Students discover the complex relationships between land use practices and Chesapeake Bay tributaries as they explore by canoe. They also learn about issues that affect the creeks and rivers of the Chesapeake Bay watershed.

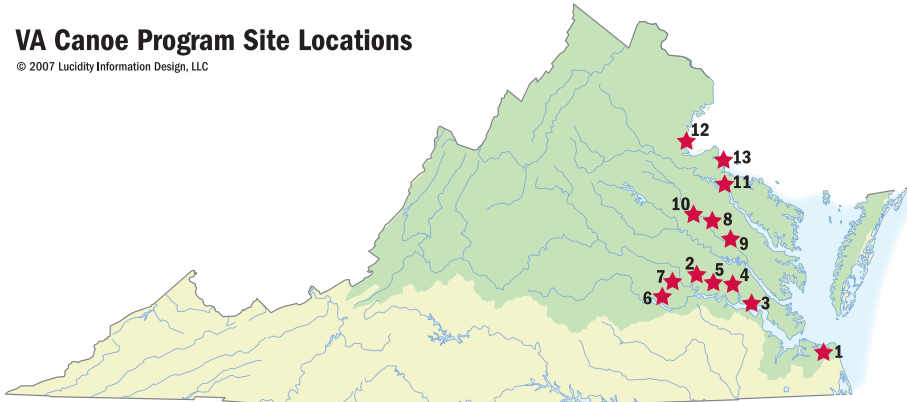
On a typical Virginia field experience, participants canoe on tidal or flat water, getting a close-up view of one part of the larger Bay. CBF instructors utilize activities to deepen participants' understanding of local ecosystems. These give relevance and depth to the classroom curriculum, and correlate to the VA SOLs. Our goal is to actively engage students and promote higher order thinking skills by learning through experience.

CBF's program staff provides opportunities for careful observation, data collection, analysis, and synthesis of information gathered during the field study experience. Instructors encourage students to reflect on the complexity of the watershed, and to see themselves as part of the solution. Field curricula are tailored to group dynamics, time, and weather.



VA Canoe Program Site Locations

© 2007 Lucidity Information Design, LLC



1. First Landing State Park, Virginia Beach
2. Powhatan Creek Canoe Access, James City
3. Morris Creek Canoe Access, Charles City
4. Harrison Lake Fish Hatchery, Charles City
5. Deep Bottom Boat Landing, Henrico County
6. White Bank State Park, Colonial Heights
7. Pocahontas State Park, Colonial Heights
8. Mattaponi at Walkerton, King and Queen Counties
9. Aylett Creek, King William County
10. Zoar State Forest, King William County
11. Hicks Landing, Caroline County
12. Mason Neck State Park, Fairfax County
13. Rosier Creek, Westmoreland County

PROGRAM CONCEPTS

Each canoe trip is tailored to your needs and designed to enhance your classroom studies. Your trip leader will call in advance of your field experience to provide details, confirm meeting time and location, and answer questions on what to bring, how to dress, and what SOLs should be targeted. Sample topics include:

- estuarine food chain
- fisheries management
- oyster reef ecology
- conservation behaviors
- sedimentation, eutrophication
- livelihoods on the Bay
- mapping skills
- forest creatures and habitats
- point source/ non-point source pollution
- salt marsh characteristics
- watershed dynamics
- environmentally-conscious construction and development

SAMPLE FIELD TRIP ITINERARY

(times may be adjusted to suit your schedule):

9:00-9:15	Introduction	3:00-4:00	Load gear, wrap up
9:15-10:00	Gear, safety, and paddle instruction	4:00	Depart
10:00-11:00	Paddling and exploration	Maximum capacity: 23/26 participants (including chaperones)	
11:00	Lunch	For grades six and up	
11:30-3:00	Seining, water quality testing, and mapping	To schedule, call	
		CBF's Education Coordinator: 410/268-8816	



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure