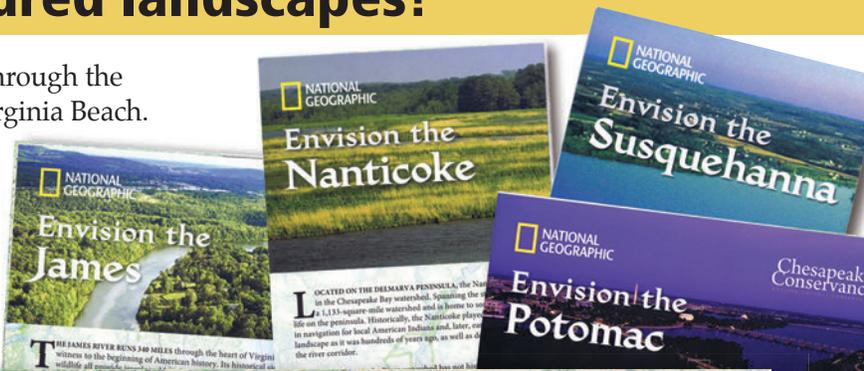


The Great Rivers are the lifeline of the Chesapeake Bay...

Help us protect our treasured landscapes!

More than 100,000 streams, creeks, and rivers thread through the Chesapeake Bay watershed—from Cooperstown to Virginia Beach. The Chesapeake Conservancy uses the Great Rivers as a framework to systematically approach its conservation efforts. The Conservancy's river corridor initiatives focus on the unique character and history of each river to capitalize on opportunities for conservation, education, and increased public access.



SITTING AT THE MOUTH OF RIVERS, PENNSYLVANIA, VIRGINIA, WEST VIRGINIA, AND WASHINGTON, D.C., THE POTOMAC RIVER STRETCHES 383 MILES TO THE CHESAPEAKE BAY AND IS THE 14TH LARGEST OF OUR NATION'S RIVERS. WITH A DRAINAGE AREA OF 1,313 SQUARE MILES, THE POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED IS THE 14TH LARGEST IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES. THE POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED IS CURRENTLY THE 14TH MOST POPULATED OF OUR NATION'S RIVERS. IN A LANDSCAPE RICH IN AMERICAN HISTORY, THE POTOMAC RIVER HAS SERVED AS A MAJOR TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR FOR THE REGIONAL PUBLIC, FROM THE WATER TO THE WATERSHED. AS THE POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED, FROM SOURCE TO SEA, HAS BEEN SHAPED BY AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, IT IS ALSO THE HOME OF MANY OF THE WATERSHED'S MOST TREASURED LANDSCAPES. THIS MAP IS A PART OF A SERIES OF MAPS THAT HELP US UNDERSTAND THE POTOMAC RIVER WATERSHED AND ITS IMPORTANCE TO THE REGION.

Captain John Smith Trail
The Captain John Smith Trail is a 10-mile trail that follows the Potomac River from its headwaters in the Shenandoah Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay. The trail is a great way to experience the natural beauty of the Potomac River watershed and the history of the region.

The Landscape
The Potomac River watershed is a diverse landscape with a variety of habitats, including forests, fields, and wetlands. The river itself is a vital part of the landscape, providing a home for many species of fish and wildlife.

Challenges
The Potomac River watershed faces many challenges, including land use changes, water pollution, and climate change. These challenges threaten the health of the river and the landscapes it supports.

Chesapeake Conservancy

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YOUR THANK YOU GIFT!
See details below...

Native History
The Potomac River watershed is home to many Native American tribes, including the Powhatan, Chickahominy, and Mattaponi. These tribes have a long history of living along the river and using its resources.

Wildlife
The Potomac River watershed is home to a wide variety of wildlife, including fish, birds, and mammals. The river and its surrounding landscapes provide a home for many of these species.

James River

"America's Founding River" runs 340 miles through the heart of Virginia, where its waters and shores were witness to the beginning of American history. Bald eagle populations continue to increase in the area, and the James is also an important stopover point for such neo-tropical migrants as the prothonotary warbler.



Nanticoke River

Spanning the states of Delaware and Maryland, the 64-mile Nanticoke has a 1,133-square-mile watershed. Home to some of the most biologically diverse plant and animal life on the peninsula, it remains one of the most pristine rivers in the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



Potomac River

Stretching across parts of Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Washington, D.C., the Potomac runs approximately 383 miles to the Chesapeake Bay. Three wildlife refuges contain such iconic species as southern painted turtles, beavers, red foxes, and bald eagles.

Susquehanna River

The mighty Susquehanna spans more than 700 miles from its headwaters in Cooperstown, New York, to Havre de Grace, Maryland. Large forested tracts, miles of riverbanks, and aquatic habitats support a rich diversity of wildlife from the eastern coyote and tundra swans, to the elusive spotted salamander and smallmouth bass.



YOUR LIMITED-EDITION GIFT!

Choose one of four beautiful large-format (24" x 36") Great River maps, created jointly with National Geographic—with our thanks for your support of \$25 or more! Donate \$100 and receive the full set of four maps.

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James River Nanticoke River Potomac River Susquehanna River

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Chesapeake Conservancy is a 501(C)(3) organization. Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

**Mail your Donor Form today,
or call 443-321-3610.**

Thanks for your support!

Saving the Chesapeake's Great Rivers and Special Places

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