

The Chesapeake Paddler



Publication of The Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc.

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August 2015

Paddler's Trip Reports

Thomas Point Light House From Mayo Beach Park

By Bill Smith, Trip Coordinator

This CPA planned trip on June 21st was originally scheduled to paddle from Beverly Triton Beach but when I found out that Mayo beach had a scheduled opening I was persuaded to change venues. I had 10 pre-registered CPA members signed up for this event but the night before a mother of storms ripped through the area; the marine forecast called for 20 MPH winds with 30 MPH gusts so I woke to 6 cancellations. I decided to continue with the paddle with the attitude that we could always paddle up the South River if the bay looked too rough. The day was a beautiful sunny day with strong off shore winds; I don't believe we ever encountered the 30 MPH winds that were predicted.

The paddlers, Al Tilson, Sophie Troy, Ben Rooper, and me, agreed to venture out but would turn back if it got too rough. We headed out but were soon being pushed by waves. The tail wind from the off shore winds had us at the light house in 45 minutes. After a brief visit we headed back to the beach but had to fight head winds. Overall it was an enjoyable day.

The Mayo Beach Park was a pleasant surprise because I did not expect it to be so nice. This was my first visit and will definitely visit again. The park has a nice sandy beach with some shore protection for easy launch and landing. I highly recommend this park during future open days since this park is rarely open to the public. ☺



Thomas Point Light House

Photo by Ben Rooper

Miles River in our Summer Heat Wave

By Sue and Rich Stevens, Trip Coordinators

The week before the event (July 18th), the weather forecasters announced that the weekend was going to be the hottest, most humidity laden weekend of the entire summer; with a scary heat index hovering over 104 degrees; and with more thunderstorms to boot. Not good news again! Our planned CPA June 13 circumnavigation of Wye Island had to be cancelled due to severe advancing thunderstorms; it did dump 3 inches of rain in one day. With our Florida-like daily June thunderstorm's rain and hail events, our Maryland region is now ahead of its normal rainfall annual total by 10 inches. Great for growing corn, melons, weeds, and mosquitoes but not kayaking, as it disappointed 25 CPA kayakers. Everyone was hopeful this weekend. Rich and I were watching to see if it would happen AGAIN. Amazingly, the morning dawned slightly overcast and breezy and it wasn't too hot! We spotted white caps crossing the Bay Bridge before 7 am with steady winds 10-15 mph coming out of the south make for a great sailing day. It was too early for many fishing boats seeking rockfish north of the bridge – but not our kayakers.

Arriving at Royal Oak landing – off MD 33 just a few miles short of the town of St. Michaels, most of our 10 kayakers were already unloading at our very own marked kayak launch spot. There is no county parking permit or fee needed for our car-top kayaks in Talbot County – yeah! http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/uploads./images/Parks_and_Rec/Landing%20Brochure.pdf.

We agreed to meet a bit earlier this Saturday morning to beat some of the expected weekend heat wave. Both Tom Heneghan and Al Larson drove over from Virginia from the Pirates of Georgetown, plus Kurt Rodowsky, Bill Smith and Bill McAllister (aka -William of the CPA Orange shirt) from the Pirates of Arundell, and the gals Linda Delaney, Gail Davidson and Nancy Eckert. Our marked kayak launch is a bit of sandy beach at low tide - located at the very end of the long crabbers docking and a paved lot. There is some parking at the far eastern end along with a short fishing pier. No one, except a surprised morning dog walker, was in sight. The crabbing boats were already out and the place was quiet; no one was launching via the nearby boat ramp, and we were not in anyone's way on our own sandy spot. Of course, it was evident local crabbing has been good; a half dozen very large, very dead crabs had washed into the grasses at our launch. The guys tossed some of the crabs to clear an un-stinky path. Those with the closest parking spots to the crabs had a bigger smelly issue: Choose to either step over the crabs or to wade.

This was a trip leaders' dream! During our morning briefing and

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THE CHESAPEAKE PADDLERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

The mission of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association is to provide a way for people to enjoy sea kayaking within the Chesapeake Bay area and to promote safe sea kayaking practices through educating the local sea kayaking community and the interested public.

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THE CHESAPEAKE PADDLER

The Chesapeake Paddler is published 10 times a year, with combination issues in Nov/Dec and Jan/Feb. The deadline for submitting copy is the 15th of the preceding month. Have an idea for an article, or is there information you would like to see in the newsletter?

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News From the CPA Coordinator - Ralph Heimlich

Sturm und Drang in the Summer

Any of us could probably write the typical summer weather forecast for Chesapeake Bay a couple of years in advance: *South winds 5-10 knots, waves 1 foot, partly cloudy with scattered showers and thunderstorms, wind and waves could be severe in the vicinity of thunderstorms, highs in the 90s, lows in the 70s. Humidity over 90 percent.* His Britannic Majesty allowed diplomats assigned to Washington DC hazardous duty pay in the 19th Century because of the tropical summers. While getting on the water is one way to beat the heat, it follows us there. Now is the time to think about the dangers of hot weather paddling (hyperthermia, heat stroke, dehydration), and a more novel one, waterspouts.

Hyperthermia is an abnormally high body temperature caused by a failure of the heat-regulating mechanisms of the body. Hyperthermia can manifest as heat fatigue, heat syncope (sudden dizziness after prolonged exposure to the heat), heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke, the most serious form, occurs when your body temperature increases significantly (generally above 104 degrees Fahrenheit) and has symptoms such as mental status changes (like confusion or combativeness), strong rapid pulse, lack of sweating, dry flushed skin, faintness, staggering, or coma. We need to be extra aware of these potential symptoms, not only in ourselves, but in those we're paddling with, especially older people (like ME!). If you or someone on your trip exhibits these symptoms, don't delay in getting them to medical attention as soon as possible because it is a life-threatening situation.

Fortunately, the best cure for hyperthermia is prevention. First, take and drink plenty of water (3-4 ounces every 20 minutes), and make sure EVERYONE on the trip is drinking enough, including those who don't want to stop for a P break. It doesn't help to drink a gallon all at once since your body can only absorb about 8 ounces an hour, so you have to drink enough water to replace losses from sweating and urination as it occurs. I like to use a bladder and hose system so I can drink without interrupting my stroke, but however you do it, drink enough water or sports drinks to stay hydrated.

Second, cover up to keep the direct (radiant) heat of the sun off your head and upper body. That means a big shady hat with a lot of cross ventilation, and sufficient clothing. I actually wear two layers: our CPA wicking shirt as a base and a loose nylon overshirt that acts as a combination "burnoose" and swamp cooler because I keep it wet.

Third, cool off by rolling (rotocooling) or just "taking a bow" by using a paddling partner's bow to rotate half your body into the cooling waters at a time.

Take a "beach break" when the opportunity affords, pull off your PFD and skirt and take a swim right in the Chesapeake Bay—No kayak needed. Another easy preventative measure is to take a small tarp or emergency blanket in your hatch so when you take your beach break you can rig a shade and cool off during your lunch.

Another aspect of a Chesapeake summer is the late afternoon thunderstorm. Weather forecasts get a little predictable: Low of 70, high of 95, scattered afternoon thunderstorms. For us kayakers, however, the issue is what to do when one of those T-storms scatters in our direction during a paddle. Clouds and a little rain would actually be a welcome break from the sun and heat, if they don't last too long, but the risks are high winds and lightning.



Ralph Heimlich, Water Spout

Keep the possibility of brief periods of high winds associated with T-storms in mind as you plan your summer paddle and try to have a "plan B" set up if you need to duck into a more sheltered tributary or cove.

Lightning can be a real killer on the water, and is hard to predict. The key is to get off the water as soon as you hear thunder (When thunder ROARS, go to SHORES). The reason is that lightning can strike from 6-10 miles away. Use the 30-30 rule: If there is 30 seconds between the flash of lightning and the sound of thunder, you are in range of a strike. Get off the water and stay off until 30 minutes after the last lightning. There is a wealth of other interesting and useful stuff about lightning in Tina Ehrig's notes from the 2013 SK203 (Trip Leader Training) at <http://www.cpakayaker.com/forums/viewtopic.php?f=22&t=7607>.

I'm sure you are all aware that a half-dozen waterspouts were sighted on the Bay a couple of weeks ago during unsettled weather (see <http://washington.cbslocal.com/2015/07/17/at-least-6-waterspouts-spotted-on-chesapeake-bay/>). A waterspout is basically a tornado that forms over water.

Joseph Golden, now a senior NOAA scientist studied the "what" of spouts and tried to puzzle out the "why." (see <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/key/?n=localresearch>) Beginning in the late 1960s, he investigated waterspouts in the Florida Keys from a single-engine Cessna 172 piloted by a friend for his Ph.D. thesis at Florida State University. During 12 days in September 1974, Golden flew into 16 Florida Keys waterspouts — one of them 26 times — in a WWII trainer modified for weather research. Golden noted that these were "weak to moderate" strength waterspouts, with speeds up to 190 mph... Nothing to take lightly.

Stage 1. The first sign of a developing waterspout is the formation of a dark circular area on the sea surface, similar to a "cat's paw" but smaller and usually moving very slowly. This spot is approximately 10-20 yards in diameter, caused by slightly increased wind. Smoke flares dropped in these areas show the air is moving in a circle and upward. Many of these "dark spots" die out without developing any further.

Stage 2. Some "dark spots" begin to take on a spiral pattern of dark and lighter water. At this stage someone on a kayak at the surface would probably only feel a wind

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Pocomoke Camping

By Suzanne Farace, Trip Coordinator

Over the July Fourth weekend, nineteen CPA paddlers gathered at the Pocomoke River State Park for a weekend of camping and paddling. For those of you who are not familiar with it, this Park is located in the southwestern section of Worcester County and is known for its stands of loblolly pine and the bald cypress swamps which border the wild and scenic Pocomoke River. This black water river originates in the Great Cypress Swamp in Delaware and flows southwesterly approximately 45 miles to the Chesapeake Bay.



Pocomoke Campers; Scenic Group

Photo by Leigh Hall

Over the course of the weekend, the group enjoyed paddling the area's well-established water trails: Corker's Creek (a loop from Shad Landing campground), Nassawango Creek (round trip from the campground to the bridge at Red House Run), and the upper Pocomoke River (round trip from the town of Snow Hill to the bridge at Porter's Crossing). We thank the always very accommodating Pocomoke Canoe Company, www.pocomokerivercanoe.com, for allowing us to launch from their floating dock. (Please call and ask permission first, and make a point of buying a few hats, t-shirts, etc. to support them when you do visit). The creeks and rivers in certain areas are very narrow and winding and have a noticeable current, and the lunch stops at the bridges can only hold so many boats, so sometimes we split up the group and staggered our paddles accordingly.

Snow Hill always has terrific fireworks over the river in celebration of the Fourth, but sadly the display this year was moved Sunday because of an organizational glitch. Our paddlers did, however, enjoy a nice dinner out at a local restaurant with great live music on Friday night and a delicious potluck in the campground on Saturday night. For the latter, we were visited by a couple of other CPA members we had just happened to encounter on the water earlier that day, who were on their own, separate trip. One evening at the campground we were visited one of the rangers who told us all about the rescued turkey buzzard he was carrying around on his forearm. And, despite an ominous weekend forecast, the weather was fine. The only time it really rained on us while in camp was at night when everyone was in their campsite anyway. All in all, a very good trip. ☺



River Paddlers

Photo by Suzanne Farace

[Miles River, continued from p.1](#)



Ready to Launch

Photo by Rich Stevens

greetings, nine out of ten of kayakers announced they had their marine radios ready, including two friends who had newly purchased radios in tow! The gang coordinated their radio channels & tweaked the squelch (channel 69 was full of a chatty fishing debate so we picked another channel). We packed up our gear, lots of frozen water, and headed together out on the Miles River, under the high bridge. Counting 5 yellow kayaks, 3 red kayaks and 2 nicely finished CLC wood kayaks, we had just enough kayaks to make for an easy count.

This bridge carries State Road MD 33 over Royal Oak Creek, paralleling the path of the old, now abandoned Baltimore, Chesapeake & Atlantic Railway right of way (later known as the Baltimore & Eastern Railroad). This rail corridor originally stretched from the small waterfront community of Claiborne near the tip of Tilghman Point on the Chesapeake Bay over to Ocean City. Long before there were highways we follow today everything and everyone used our many convenient rivers and the later railroads to get to town and their produce to market. Now there is another well managed boat ramp located at the old ferry landing in Claiborne with its obvious heavy duty ferry pilings still in place. A portion of the old liberated rail corridor runs through the residential side of busy St. Michaels has been rebuilt as a hiking nature trail: <http://www.trailink.com/trail/st-michaels-nature-trail.aspx>.

Heading out on the Miles, the south winds behind us pushed us easily across to the far side of the river with its long wooded shoreline and a lonely wood dock slowly falling into the water at Long Point Island. The crew quickly spotted cownose sting rays, waving their tiny triangular wing tips as they swam by our group: http://www.chesapeakebay.net/fieldguide/critter/cownose_ray.

No one appears to be living on the island, although there are two bungalows hidden on the rip-rapped front side of the island. Our gang spotted several sandy beaches, a planted American flag flapping in the breeze, and a half buried-in-the-sand picnic table. It's too early in our paddle for lunch, but it would be a nice stop over location on a shorter kayak trip. Now we need choose: avoid the wind and go up short Hunting Creek to the east or go out into the main river. On we go.

It's still overcast and pleasantly breezy as we make our way up the northern side of the Miles *and we have not melted yet!* Two water towers spotted over St. Michaels make for good, tall landmarks as the south winds push several more sailboats and our kayak fleet down-river. We slide into the mouth of Leeds Creek, directly opposite St. Michaels - easily 6-7 miles, and reconvene. The wind is blowing steadily and the building clouds are looking much darker ahead; some chatter on the radio says it is raining over on the western side, but not

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around us. Our fleet opts for the calmer waters of Leeds Creek, which will have more protection and quicker places to get off the water if a thunder storm pops up. Paddling along the quiet surface, we quickly spot plenty of tiny beaches, wooded coves, and front yards, and even friendly porches if we need to escape a storm. Many ospreys have built their nests on the dock pilings and are noisily guarding their fledglings. Who wants an aerial fresh fish supper?

Our next landmark is the low wood planked bridge straddling Leeds Creek and its narrow paved, little-used boat ramp at the small village of Tunis Mills: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tunis_Mills,_Maryland. It was a short paddle to its marshy end and back under the shady bridge. This is a great place to climb out and walk to the middle of the wooden bridge's swimming platform. No bathroom opportunity here unless you can find a vacant wooded lot within walking distance; all of the houses are too close by. We have not melted yet: we have a pleasant breeze, great for the buzzing barn swallows nesting under the bridge and us. An occasional vehicle thumps its way across the open planked bridge, while we sit below eye level on the swim platform wood steps to eat lunch. We discover that peanut butter and jelly is a big favorite for most of us and it doesn't melt! A bit of old painted graffiti written in the bridge tar may tell of a bit of teenage angst right in on the middle of the bridge. The smell of hot wood and black tarred creosote in the sun reminds us of ol' boardwalk days. Several folks, including Tom, are willing to jump in to cool off but its ladder steps are a bit precariously screwed: NOT today. Linda also spotted the first jellyfish/sea nettle of the season floating along in the

high tide in Leeds Creek; they are easy to spot: <http://www.chesapeakebay.net/fieldguide/critter/jellyfish>.

Next time we will be checking the swimmers jellyfish report: <http://patch.com/maryland/annapolis/jellyfish-season-has-begun-aedfa795>.

Our next stop after lunchtime proved interestingly brief. All the guys made a bee-line for the next quiet wooded cove for a pit-stop, while we gals headed for an abandoned shoreline duck-blind sandy stop along with assorted mosquitoes who quickly found us. Ah, the joys of summertime kayaking! We also chased a singlet Bald Eagle fishing off the cove, and then spot an elusive little Green Heron: http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Green_Heron/id. The birds were perched there all along our route, but quickly disappeared with a couple of wing flaps into the green of the trees. A big passenger boat, politely trying to slow down for our outbound fleet, instead sent a set of huge curling waves across the quiet creek across our collective bows. It was good to see how our kayak fleet stuck together chatting & paddling with the number of passing boats: a lot of stuff you may notice while being the sweep!

The skies lightened. The darker clouds scurried north across the bay, giving way to fluffy white clouds as we hit the consistent south winds blowing across the mouth of Leeds Creek's Fairview Point. Gathering together again, we lined up to cross. It's a mile plus crossing over the Miles River plus we anticipate more boat traffic into St. Michaels. We picked our shared distant landmark; everyone spotted something way over there. "Shall we aim for that house with a bright green front

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5th Annual Kiptopeke Sea Kayaking Symposium September 25 – 27 , 2015

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[Continued from p. 5 Miles River](#)

door," "an anchored sailboat or...three", or "The last house on the right on the point into the harbor." We DO agree to stay tightly together and to keep abreast.

After a good long time with lots of bouncing waves mid-channel and dodging a few motor boats everyone was surprised to discover the house is not really bright green. It is new insulation and all three sailboats were really anchored. The heavy boat traffic lane into St. Michaels uses the deep side of the right channel for their harbor approach, which is very good for our tiny kayaks. Last year's trip bumpier route pushed us cross a lot of boat traffic intent on getting into harbor and a crab cake. Along our transit, there was lots of interesting radio chatter back and forth from boaters and the Harbor attempting to find a convenient docking berth; we wondered how long a berth ten kayaks could need (P.S. It's a dollar a foot for docking boats).

The landmark entrance to St. Michaels Harbor is highlighted by the Chesapeake Martine Museum and its historic 1897 Hooper Strait screw-pile lighthouse: <http://cbmm.org/>. The waterfront Museum is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year – YEAH! It's a great working



Photo by Rich Stevens

museum to explore and support. You can spend the entire day there and not see everything. Several of our CPA members have won prizes in previous years for their hand-made wood boats and a wooden hand tied skin on frame kayak at the Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival held every October (<http://cbmm.org/events/annual-festivals-and-special-events/mid-atlantic-small-craft-festival-and-maritime-model-expo/>). We were lucky to spot the sailing skipjack Rosie Parks and the H.M. Krentz - docked right under the lighthouse: <http://cbmm.org/exhibitions/floating-fleet/>. We quickly grouped up for a photo op before the H.M. Krentz turned out of its berth for a museum sailing excursion.

With the pulse and rumble of incoming boat traffic, our ten kayaks were totally dwarfed and out-matched finding a quiet space to sit and watch the show. Actually, we became part of the busy water show for the nearby diners and boaters as well as part of a floating obstacle course. Somehow, Tom quickly decided it was not a good place to give them a show with a full roll (Tom says they used to roll for Watergate diners on the Potomac River) for a tossed beer since all the beer is in plastic cups these days. A nice surprise to see the Schooner Sultana <http://sultanaeducation.org/about-sultana/schooner-sultana/> is also docked by the Museum. The Sultana, built in the Town of Chestertown, plays a big part in the Chestertown Tea Party (see our JUNE 2014 CPA Paddler article). The Sultana under full sail - was

spotted by Greg Welker later in the week as it was sailing past the Thomas Point Lighthouse: Maryland's only historic screw-pile lighthouse still on the water: <http://thomaspointlighthouse.org/>.



Sultana at Thomas Point

Photo by Greg Welker

A quick clock-wise tour wisely got us out of the busy side of the harbor as it is very much like navigating Ego Alley in downtown Annapolis- you just have to go do it - by kayak!

There is much to see in St. Michaels area, with its Martine Museum, many seafood restaurants, Main Street shopping district, historic walking tours, biking opportunities, local B&Bs, many local historic houses, and its history dating back before the Revolutionary War – the list goes on: <http://www.stmichaelsmd.org/>. We kayakers cannot really appreciate busy St. Michaels this time; we just get a taste and will be back soon.

Turning away from St. Michaels Harbor, we appreciate the quiet water away from the chop of the river and prevailing south wind, now blocked by the nearby wooded shoreline, and head back up the Miles River. It seems a long way - just over three miles back to the high bridge, and it is now getting much hotter, or the wind is not helping us in this direction. The Museum skipjack is spotted as it sails along the far side of the river to Long Point and turns back. The Museum's big tour boat painted red/white/blue soon overtakes the sailing boat, but they never come on our side. We pass a lot more rip-rap shorelines with big waterfront houses; there is not much open waterfront on this side of the river. There is one undeveloped wide open sandy beach for a quick stop to stretch your legs spotted along our route and more mosquitoes to discover. The last mile of paddling spreads out our returning kayakers into a long chain of colored boats. That "call of the landing" speeds our crew back to our easy-to-spot landmark, the high bridge, and we still have a nice breeze blowing.

Soon we are all safely landed, a bit tired in a good way, on the lee of the bridge parking lot with no wind to cool us – IT IS REALLY HOT! We quickly load up and all of us find a cool refuge in our nearby favorite pub in St. Michaels for any early supper together: 15.3 miles!

What a great day together! PLUS we missed Maryland's latest heat wave! ☹️



Trip Map

by Rich Stevens

Chesapeake Paddlers Association 2015 Calendar

| Date | Title | Summary |
|------------|---|---|
| August 8 | Kent Island Paddle #5 | The fifth in a series of paddles around Kent Island. |
| August 8-9 | Potomac Passage Maker Tour #5 | The fifth leg is a 2-day kayak camper from South Park to Piney Point. |
| August 15 | Magothy - Cypress Creek North | Leisurely kayak tour of the Magothy - Cypress Creek |
| August 16 | Iron Girl Swim Support* | Kayak swimmer support for Iron Girl Triathlon, Centennial Lake |
| August 22 | Manhattan Circumnavigation* | Paddle around Manhattan in your kayak |
| August 23 | Nanjemoy Creek Paddle | Paddle up the creek with a paddle. |
| August 23 | Potomac Islands Paddle | A 17 nm trip from Newtown Canoe launch Neck to circumnavigate 3-4 islands of the Potomac River. |
| August 30 | Tilghman Kayak Rally* | http://www.tilghmantaya.com/home-3/events/kayak-rally/ |

[August Calendar](#)

* Non CPA Event

[Continued from p 3, Ralph](#)

shift in direction and some increase in speed. A small "funnel" may be visible embedded in the base of the cloud overhead.

Stage 3. Even though it might be invisible, a continuous vortex extends from the cloud base to the ocean surface. As the wind increases to around 35 knots, sea spray becomes visible in a circular pattern around the surface vortex. A funnel is usually seen at this stage extending at least part way down from the cloud base toward the center of the surface ring of spray.

Stage 4. The fourth, or mature stage is when the funnel reaches all the way from the cloud to the ocean. You can usually see through the funnel - it's really a thin cloud of tiny water droplets. During this stage, small waves are being kicked up and the spout leaves a bubbly wake behind as it moves across the ocean. These tiny bubbles could be carbon dioxide and other gases that are dissolved in the water that are caused to effervesce by the low air pressure in the spout's center - like a bottle of soda that's just opened.

Stage 5. In the fifth, and final stage, the spray vortex weakens and the funnel becomes shorter and maybe more tapered. It often twists around and the bottom of the waterspout may move out from under the cloud. The waterspout's dissipation usually occurs when rain begins falling from the parent cloud. Cool air brought down by the rain cuts off the supply of warm, humid air.

Source: http://www.oocities.org/baja/ravine/2131/Weather/Spout_Art.html.tmp

The Florida Keys "are the greatest, natural vortex lab in the world," says Golden. "Waterspouts probably occur more frequently in the Florida Keys than anywhere in the world."

Waters around the Keys, especially from Marathon past Key West on westward to the Dry Tortugas, probably see 400 or 500 waterspouts a year. Tampa Bay has had the most damaging waterspouts over time.

The two necessary ingredients for waterspouts to form are:

Hot air and humidity--Extremely humid air with temperatures in the mid-80s into the low 90s helps form waterspouts. The heat causes the air to rise. As it rises, the air's humidity condenses into the tiny water droplets that make up clouds. As water vapor condenses, it releases more heat that makes the air rise even faster. Rising air currents are needed for waterspout formation.

Regular winds--The second important waterspout ingredient is regular east or northeast winds that help line up the clouds. Lines of clouds encourage waterspouts. Exactly how is one of the questions researchers are trying to answer.

Clouds that spawn waterspouts in the Keys are generally from around 18,000 to 22,000 feet high, and waterspouts are likely to form when the clouds are growing upwards. In the Keys, waterspouts are most likely to form between 4 and 7 p.m. with a secondary maximum from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A few waterspouts form around sunrise.

Even though waterspouts are usually weaker than tornadoes over land, they can be a real danger to kayakers. What can you do? As with any kind of weather hazard, stay safe by keeping informed. Set your VHF radio to receive and monitor weather alerts in the area you are paddling. Stay observant...waterspouts tend to come from clouds with a dark, flat bottom when there is just the first hint of rain.

If you do see one, try to escape by going at right angles to its path. If you can't avoid it, the best bet might be to dive overboard to avoid being hit by debris from your kayak and gear. Flying debris is the big killer in tornadoes and waterspouts.

So, get out and enjoy the best the Chesapeake has to offer in the hot, humid, hazy summer months, but BE COOL, and KEEP A WEATHER EYE OUT!!! ☼



Miles River Trip

Photo by Rich Stevens

Thanks to Rick Wiebush

for many years of Paddler's Profiles. Rick has stepped down to allow someone else to enjoy this privilege. If you would like to get to know your fellow paddlers better, this is a great opportunity for you! AND it's easy. All you have to do is send a copy of the interview form to your fellow paddling friends. They return it to you for a quick edit and then you send it on to the editor of the newsletter to be published. Easy Peasy!

Contact Newsletter Editor (Carrie Casto)
news_editor@cpakayaker.com

Do you attend lots of CPA functions? Do you want to take a small role to help out this here paddling group? Well, you should consider becoming our librarian! You will just need to drag the crate of books with you to these functions and keep track of who has what book/DVD! How hard can that be? Come on! Step up! It will be fun!!!

Contact Caroline Labbé
clabbe56@hotmail.com

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Paddler related articles:

15 Items every paddler needs: <http://www.rapidmedia.com/kayaking/categories/skills/5502-the-15-essentials-every-kayaker-needs.html>

How to Avoid elbow and wrist tendonitis: <http://www.canoekayak.com/skills/how-to-avoid-elbow-and-wrist-tendonitis-for-paddlers/#vU7A0QeXIJTFFR2.97>

Zen and long trips: <http://www.rapidmedia.com/kayaking/categories/departments/1890-longer-trips-are-lifesavers.html>

Day hatch fillers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2rUaMChEjxI>

DIY contact tow line: <http://www.rapidmedia.com/kayaking/categories/skills/4822-video-how-to-sea-kayak-contact-tow.html>

The Chesapeake Paddler

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