

Paddlers Learn About Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge

By Colby Hawkinson, Visitor Services Specialist, Eastern Neck NWR



Getting ready photo by Colby Hawkinson USFWS

Program participants commented that one of the highlights of the day was stopping on the Chester River side of the refuge near Hail Cove to learn about the Living Shoreline restoration project underway there. They enjoyed an interpretive talk about the restoration and then paddled around Hail Point and all the way up Hail Creek to view the project area from the water on the 'back' side. The paddlers appreciated getting to learn about the Hail Cove Restoration Project while viewing it from both sides. They said this gave them a better appreciation for how ecologically important (and thin) that strip of land is. Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge thanks the Chesapeake Paddlers Association for this opportunity to educate visitors to the refuge out on the water and hopes to plan similar events in the future.

On Saturday, August 20, 22 members of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association participated in an interpretive paddling program with me at Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge. The program began at 9:00 AM at Bogles Wharf with an orientation to the National Wildlife Refuge System and to Eastern Neck NWR. Then, the group paddled the approximately 10 mile circumnavigation of the refuge, with numerous stops along the way to interpret refuge history, management and ecology. The program ended at 3:00 PM back at Bogles Wharf.



Heading out photo by Colby Hawkinson, USFWS



Interpretation of Hail Creek restoration photo by Colby Hawkinson, USFWS



Interpretive Paddling Program at Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge on Saturday, October 29.

Join refuge staff and the Chesapeake Paddlers Association for an interpretive paddling program which will travel all the way around Eastern Neck Island. This program will run from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. To sign up, contact Marshall Woodruff at marshall.woodruff@gmail.com or call the refuge at 410-639-7056 or the [CPA Calendar](#).

