



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

**Elk Neck State Park
4395 Turkey Point Road, North East, MD 21901
2024 Events Calendar**

Elk Neck State Park, situated between the Elk River and Chesapeake Bay in Cecil County, Maryland, provides an opportunity for visitors to explore the diverse landscapes that overlook the Chesapeake Bay. For more information, visit <https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/central/elkneck.aspx>. To register for an event, please call 410-287-5333.

January 1 "First Day Hike Around the Pond" 10 a.m.

Hike into the New Year with a ranger along the Wapiti Pond Trail. During this 1.5 mile moderate hike, experience the peaceful views of the Wapiti Pond and learn about the local fauna and flora. Following the hike, enjoy a campfire and hot chocolate at the Nature Center amphitheater. Meet at the Nature Center, located in the campground. This is a pet free program; please leave your pets at home. Registration is preferred but not required. Day use fees apply (\$3 per Maryland vehicle; \$5 per out-of-state vehicle).

January 13 "Winter Lights Cecil Nights: Constellations and Campfires" 5 - 6:15 p.m.

Join a ranger around the campfire as a part of the Winter Lights Cecil Nights Campaign. Meet at the Nature Center Amphitheater, located in the campground, for a night of stories and stargazing. Weather permitting, participants will be able to observe the night sky as they listen to stories about the constellations. Hot chocolate will be provided. This is a pet free program; please leave your pets at home. The cost for the program is \$3 dollars per person or \$10 for a family of four; pay the ranger upon arrival (cash or check only). Registration is required and space is limited; call the park at 410-287-5333 to reserve your space today.

February 24 "Winter Lights Cecil Nights: Lady Lightkeepers" 5:45 - 7 p.m.

Join a park ranger for a 1.6 mile guided night hike to the Turkey Point Lighthouse for the Winter Lights Cecil Nights Campaign. Learn about the lives of the four Lady Lightkeepers stationed at the Turkey Point Lighthouse during its commission and the roles performed to keep the passing ships safe. This program is weather permitting. Registration is required and space is limited; call the park at 410-287-5333 to reserve your space today. The cost for the program is \$3 dollars per person or \$10 for a family of four; pay the ranger upon arrival (cash or check only). Please arrive 15 minutes before the program begins.

April 20 "Earth Day Celebration" 10 a.m. - Noon

Celebrate the start of Earth Week at the Nature Center, located in the Campground. Participants will work alongside park staff to improve the park and become habitat heroes! Afterwards, create a seed ball to take home and make your yard more pollinator friendly. Learn about your personal carbon footprint and discover ways to become more sustainable in your daily life. Day use fees are waived for Earth Day Celebration volunteers.



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May 11 "Avian Adventures" 9:30 a.m.

"Call"-ing all birders! Celebrate World Migratory Bird Day by going on a bird hike with a ranger to observe the birds that live in the park. Bring your own binoculars if you have them; the park has a limited number of binoculars. Meet at the Beaver Marsh Loop Trailhead in the Rogues Harbor upper parking lot. Day use fees apply (\$3 per Maryland residents; \$5 per out-of-state residents).

June 1 "National Trails Day Hike" 10 a.m.

Get a jumpstart into celebrating 'Great Outdoors Month' by joining a ranger on National Trails Day to explore the forested areas of the park. This two-mile hike will let you view the native flora of the White Banks and Beaver Marsh Loop Trails. Dogs on a leash are welcome. Day use fees apply (\$3 per Maryland resident; \$5 per out-of-state resident). Reservations preferred but not required.

June 15 "Cecil County Wade In" 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Join park staff at North East Beach for the 15th Annual Cecil County Wade In. Partnered with other agencies in the community, we will pull up our pant legs and wade into the Chesapeake Bay to measure the water quality the way former Maryland State Senator Bernie Fowler did with his "sneaker index". Reservations are not required; day use fee waived for participants. Bring clothes that can get wet, water shoes, water, and sunscreen.

June 29 "Elk River Exploration" 9 - 11 a.m.

Explore the banks of the Turkey Point Peninsula by paddling the Elk River. Along the way, learn to identify some of the animals that call this watery habitat home. You could even catch a glimpse of a Bald Eagle swooping down to catch a fish! Meet next to the boat launch facilities in the Rogues Harbor Area. \$20 per canoe; \$15 per single kayak. Bring your own canoe or kayak for just \$5 per person. Space is limited, so call today to register.

July 20 "Summer Nights Evening Paddle" 5 - 7 p.m.

Enjoy an evening paddle on the serene waters of the Elk River. Discover the wonders that abound on the water as the sun sets. Meet next to the boat launch facilities in the Rogues Harbor Area. \$20 per canoe; \$15 per single kayak. Bring your own canoe or kayak for just \$5 per person. Space is limited, so call today to register.

August 24 "Healthy Parks Healthy People Paddle" 9 - 11 a.m.

Join a ranger for some stress relief by paddling the Elk River. Get your heart pumping and muscles moving as you glide through the water towards a healthier lifestyle. Meet next to the boat launch facilities in the Rogues Harbor Area. \$20 per canoe; \$15 per single kayak. Bring your own canoe or kayak for just \$5 per person. Space is limited, so call today to register.

September 14 "International Observe the Moon Night" 7:30 p.m.

Join a ranger and millions of others across the globe for NASA's International Observe the Moon Night. Learn about the phases of the moon and other stellar phenomena in the Milky Way Galaxy. Weather permitting, you will have the opportunity to observe the moon and stargaze at the night sky. Bring your own binoculars if you have them; the park has a limited number of binoculars. Meet at the Nature Center, located in the campground. Registration is preferred, but not required. Day use fees apply (\$3 per Maryland resident; \$5 per out-of-state resident).

The facilities and services of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources are available to all without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, national origin, or physical or mental disability. This document is available in alternative format upon request from a qualified individual with disability. Accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be provided upon request. Seven days advance notice is requested.



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September 21 "Paddle into Fall" 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Celebrate the change of seasons with an evening paddle on the peaceful waters of the Elk River. Wrap up the day surrounded by fall foliage and a beautiful view of the Elk River. Meet next to the boat launch facilities in the Rogues Harbor Area. \$20 per canoe; \$15 per single kayak. Bring your own canoe or kayak for just \$5 per person. Space is limited, so call today to register.

September 28 "National Public Lands Day" 10 a.m. - Noon

Come out and celebrate National Public Lands Day by volunteering at Elk Neck State Park! You will be among thousands of people nationwide who volunteer their time to benefit America's public lands. Work side by side with park staff and afterwards, enjoy free access to the park's different areas. Meet at the Nature Center, located in the Campground.

October 12 "Fall Festival" 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Join park staff for a family friendly Fall Festival at the Nature Center. Observe the beautiful fall foliage as you enjoy autumn-themed activities, crafts, games, and a campfire (weather permitting). This is a pet free event; please leave your pets at home. Day use fees apply (\$3 per Maryland resident; \$5 per out-of-state resident).

November 29 "Nature Trek" 10 a.m.

Stretch your legs and work off those extra Thanksgiving calories. Join a ranger for a refreshing two-mile hike along the White Banks Trail. Bring your hiking shoes, weather appropriate clothing, water, and snacks. Dogs on a leash are welcome. Meet at the North East Beach Upper Parking Lot. Registration is preferred but not required. Day use fees apply (\$3 per Maryland vehicle; \$5 per out-of-state vehicle).