



You've
seen our
front
yard...

Ready for a day off the beach?

Explore the shady trails and quiet waters of the Inland Bays.

Three shallow bays—Rehoboth Bay, Indian River Bay and Little Assawoman—lie behind a narrow spit of land in sight and sound of the Atlantic Ocean on the Delaware coast.

The Delaware Center for the Inland Bays is a nonprofit dedicated to the wise use and enhancement of these bays. With its many partners and volunteers, the CIB sponsors and supports public outreach and education, restoration, and research.

Get on board with the Bays at inlandbays.org

A good place to start is at the James Farm Ecological Preserve on Cedar Neck in Ocean View...150 acres of maritime forest, meadows, salt marsh and sandy beach on Indian River Bay near Bethany Beach.

You're invited to walk the trails, go beachcombing, and take in the views from the observation platforms from sunrise to sunset every day.

Directions: From Rt. 1, turn on Fred Hudson Road (first traffic light south of the Indian River Inlet Bridge) then right on Cedar Neck Road and continue to James Farm on left.

Map: inlandbays.org

James Farm

1



now check out our

backyard!



Burton Island Trail

2

Mode: Walking
Distance: 1.5 miles (round trip)
Difficulty: Easy
Trailhead: Delaware Seashore State Park / North end of the Indian River Marina
Directions: From Rt. 1, turn on Inlet Road just north of Indian River Inlet Bridge and continue to the Marina.
Map: destateparks.com

The loop trail begins at the north end of the marina where you cross a short bridge to the island. The sandy path leads through upland forests of oak, sassafras, holly and loblolly pine; a wide variety of native trees, shrubs and wildflowers. You'll see grand vistas across the salt marsh to Indian River Bay and Rehoboth Bay as you traverse the marshes on elevated boardwalks.

Note: Please stay on the trail while visiting the island. The island provides important nesting grounds for the Diamondback terrapin.

DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE
INLAND BAYS
Research. Educate. Restore.





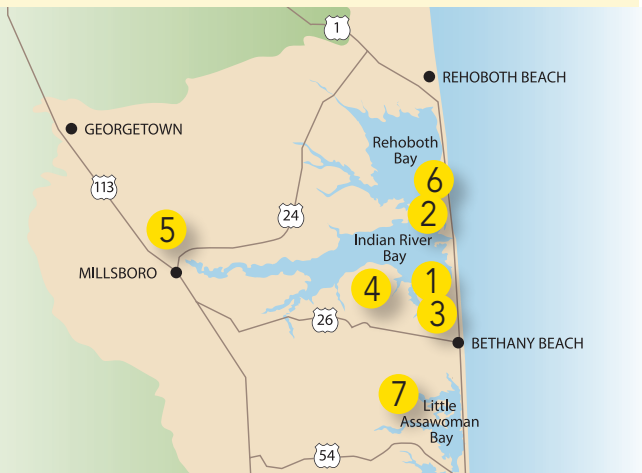
Fresh Pond Area: Prickly Pear Trail

3

- Mode:** Walking, biking, and equestrian
Distance: 3 miles
Difficulty: Easy
Trailhead: Hickman Road parking area, DE Seashore State Park
Directions: From Rt. 1, turn on Fred Hudson Road (first traffic light south of the Indian River Inlet Bridge) then right on Cedar Neck Road and right on Hickman Rd.
Map: destateparks.com

This trail offers a 3-mile loop perfect to explore the park, and a 0.3 mile side trail that leads to a view of the Indian River Bay. Trail users can observe forest succession as they travel through meadow habitat that was once a farm. Be on the lookout for wild turkeys and other grassland birds. The trail is grass or packed sand and is open for hiking, bicycling, and seasonal horseback riding. A 1/8 mile paved connector trail provides access from Rt. 1 at the north end of Fresh Pond. **Fee \$ in season**

Equestrian Note: Please visit this website for Horseback Riding Guidelines at destateparks.com



Holts Landing: Sea Hawk Trail

4

- Mode:** Walking
Distance: 1.5 mile loop
Difficulty: Easy
Trailhead: Main parking area
Directions: From Rt. 26 turn onto Holts Landing Road and follow to Park entrance.
Map: destateparks.com

The Sea Hawk Trail meanders through mixed hardwood and conifer forest, crosses a meadow, then follows the shoreline of the Indian River Bay. Birding and other wildlife viewing opportunities abound as you experience the coastal bays environment along the trail. **Fee \$ in season**



5

Millsboro Pond

- Mode:** Kayak or canoe
Distance: Round trip 3-4 miles
Difficulty: Moderate
Trailhead: Millsboro Pond boat launch off Rt. 24 on Rt. 30

Millsboro Pond is located above the dam on Indian River and offers a peaceful freshwater paddle through floating gardens of Spatterdock water lily. Launch from the boat ramp and head northwest on the pond. Paddle near the pond's edge to look for Green herons, Belted kingfishers, and Eastern painted turtles and explore around the upland islands. Follow to the east and north toward the top of the pond to reach the mouth of Cow Bridge Branch. The branch offers an intimate paddle on a narrow, shaded creek. The current may be strong in the spring and early summer as you paddle upstream.

Savages Ditch Area

6

- Mode:** Kayak or canoe
Distance: Variable
Difficulty: Moderate
Trailhead: Parking area
Directions: Rt. 1 just south of Indian River Lifesaving Station
Map: destateparks.com

This launch spot is on the east side of the Bay in an area dotted with islands of coastal salt marsh. Meandering among the islands, look for horseshoe crabs swimming along the bay bottom, snowy egrets moving quietly through the shallows, and osprey returning to their nests with fish. These islands are favored nesting areas for many native birds. Close to the beach but a world away. **Fee \$ in season**

Paddlers Note: Launching and landing at Savages Ditch is best at a higher tide. Consult a tide table for Indian River and add 90 minutes for the Savages Ditch Area.



Sassafras Landing

7

- Mode:** Kayak or canoe
Distance: Variable (1-7 mi)
Difficulty: Easy to moderate
Trailhead: Sassafras Landing / Assawoman Wildlife Area
Directions: Follow the signs from Camp Barnes Road
Map: destateparks.com

From the Assawoman Wildlife Area, you can see the high rises of North Ocean City across the Bay, but this wild place is home to Bald eagles, Great blue herons and other denizens of the maritime forest and salt marshes. Launch from the sandy beach at Sassafras Landing and paddle west to explore Miller Creek. For a longer adventure, head east into Little Assawoman Bay and then north to the Assawoman Canal, a narrow shaded corridor that goes all the way to Indian River Bay.

