Holts Landing: Sea Hawk Trail

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

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 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.

Sassafras Landing

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.