



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Chesapeake Bay Office

Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network
Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail
Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 314
Annapolis, MD 21403

July 14, 2011

Dear Friend:

Thank you for agreeing to join us at next week's workshop on further developing the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail along the James River. I want to provide you with some advance information to help make your time with us as productive as possible.

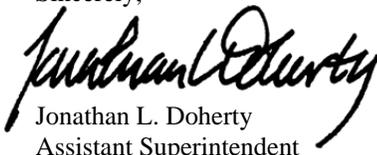
Logistics first! The session is on Tuesday, July 19th in two parts: (1) a 10:00 AM *optional* tour at Chickahominy Riverfront Park; and (2) the main workshop at 1:00 PM at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center. An agenda for both parts is attached, with the specific locations for each. Please read it over, especially if you are participating in the morning tour.

Now the most important part – a bit of homework! Attached is an initial draft of the preliminary concept plan for the James River segment of the trail. Note, this is a *draft*. The purpose of this workshop is to get your thoughts on how to improve it and how to work together to implement the trail along the James. The ideas in the draft concept plan drew heavily from key points made by participants in a series of focus groups in March. Would you kindly take some time in advance of Tuesday to read through the draft? As you read, would you think about the following questions?

- What do you like about the draft plan? How can it be improved?
- How will we know we've been successful in making the trail more visible and real for visitors?
- What actions could you take over the next year to advance the concepts outlined for the trail?
- How can the National Park Service, the James River Association and the Commonwealth help coordinate and support these efforts?

On behalf of the planning team partners, I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday. We are anticipating good attendance from a diverse group of people and an interesting and lively discussion. Thanks again for joining us and for taking time to read through these materials!

Sincerely,



Jonathan L. Doherty
Assistant Superintendent

Attachments

- Agenda
- Preliminary Concept Plan for the James River Segment



Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail James River Segment Plan Tour & Workshop

July 19, 2011

Agenda

10:00 **Optional Tour**

Meet at Chickahominy Riverfront Park. Follow signs to the parking area. The designated meeting location is adjacent to the parking area, next to campsite #118, in front of the Chickahominy Water Trail signs. Best to wear water shoes and be prepared to get wet! Changing rooms are available at the conclusion of the tour. In case of inclement weather call 757-871-0948 for possible cancelation information.

- Welcome and site orientation
- Briefing/overview of the Indigenous Cultural Landscape initiative

10:15 Short walk to watercraft launch area and load into kayaks and john boats for water excursion.

11:30 Return from water excursion.

11:30- *On your Own.* Tour participants can use this opportunity to change clothes, eat lunch, etc.

1:00 Chickahominy Riverfront Park is about a 15 minute drive from the workshop location: James City/Williamsburg Community Center.

1:00 **Workshop**

Convene at the James City/Williamsburg Community Center, 5301 Longhill Road, Williamsburg (Community Rooms A & B)

1:00 Welcome

1:05 Conversation with students participating in a John Smith Trail experience – a multi-week paddle along the trail; organized by the James River Association.

1:30 Overview of preliminary concept plan

2:00 Discussion (break-out). This will be a time to get your thoughts on: the draft preliminary concept plan and how to improve it; how to measure success; and what you, your organization and all of us can do to further develop the trail in the near-term.

3:30 Summary reports of break-out groups and next steps

4:00 Adjourn