

# The Chesapeake Paddler



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## The Potomac Passagemaker 24: Kayak Camping on the Potomac

By Ralph Heimlich



In 2019, I led a series of paddles for Chesapeake Paddlers Association (CPA) that covered the entire tidal Potomac River from Washington, D.C. to Point Lookout, Maryland. This year, I reprised the Passagemaker series with a set of 11 paddles. Most of them are day trips, and, unfortunately, many of them need to be set up as

shuttles because of a lack of suitable launches (shuttles are just so much more work!). This season, only one of the paddles was a kayak camper, originating at the launch on Mallows Bay (see map) and touring upriver first to spend the night at the paddle-in campsite at Bushy Point in [Leesylvania State Park](#) (VA). From there, we paddled down the western



Figure 1 Kayakers Lois, Paul, Joe, Gail and Bob prepare to launch at Mallows Bay



shore of the river to overnight at [Widewater State Park's](#) paddle-in campsite. On the third day, we paddled around the Virginia shoreline of the Potomac's Great Bend to [Caledon](#)

[State Park](#) before returning on Sunday to the start at Mallows Bay. I was accompanied by four experienced CPA paddlers: Joe Messier, Paul Levine, Lois Wyatt, and Gail Addis. Bob Pullman paddled the Maryland shore with us on the first day out of Mallows Bay.

Kayak touring on any of our local rivers is a function of a few necessary ingredients. Foremost is the establishment of paddle-in campsites, or at least camping in some reasonable proximity to the river. Next is a reasonably secure place to leave your vehicles. Kayaking is no fun if you arrive back at the launch to discover your ride has only three wheels! In another article (see [Kayak Touring in the Chesapeake Bay](#)), I detail the paddle-in campsites available on the Patuxent and Potomac Rivers, and you can consult my interactive map (see [Chesapeake Bay Access and Paddle-in Campsite map](#)) for more sites on other rivers and the Bay.

Under lowering skies, we loaded our kayaks on a Thursday morning at the Mallows Bay launch, using the low-tide beach *(Continued on page 8)*

# Coordinator's Column – Hot Summer Days

## By Paula Hubbard

### Hot Summer Days

It's been a hot summer so far and it is only July. Kayaking can be a great way to beat the heat, but we also need to be aware of the dangers. One issue that I have seen when paddling in hot weather is heat exhaustion. Heat exhaustion is a condition that occurs when your body overheats due to prolonged exposure to high temperatures, especially when combined with high humidity and physical exertion. It can lead to heat stroke if not promptly treated. Heat exhaustion may be seen when you have exposure to high temperatures, particularly when combined with high humidity and vigorous physical activity. Dehydration is also a factor.

Symptoms of heat exhaustion include:

- Heavy sweating
- Weakness or fatigue
- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Nausea or vomiting
- Headache
- Muscle cramps
- Rapid pulse

Every paddler should know these symptoms and monitor themselves. It's better to treat heat exhaustion before it becomes a more serious problem as heat exhaustion can progress to heat stroke, which is a medical emergency.

Treatment includes:

- Moving to a cooler Place if possible. Look for shade, or if you are at the launch, get into an airconditioned car.
- Stop all physical activity and rest. You may request a tow, or if you are paddling with someone who is showing signs of heat exhaustion, convince them to accept a tow.
- Hydrate: Drink plenty of fluids, preferably water or a sports drink containing electrolytes. Avoid caffeinated or alcoholic beverages.
- Get wet. Take advantage of the water we are paddling in to help cool off. Also, the ice pack in your lunch box can be used to cool off.

Prevention is much better than treatment. We always remind people to take frequent water breaks. Many people prefer a hydration pack as opposed to water bottles since it is easier to carry and drink while on the move. Don't wait until you are thirsty to drink. Also consider adding electrolytes, especially if you are prone to getting cramps. Clothing can also help. Light weight clothing that offers protection from the sun and that dries quickly will help keep you cool. Hats are a must. Don't forget the sunscreen. Sunburn affects your body's ability to cool itself and can make you dehydrated.

### Keeping Cool while Paddling.



Kayaking is a great sport for hot weather. The best way to stay cool is to drink lots of water and get wet. And the best way to get wet is to practice your rescues, wet exits, rolling, etc. If you don't roll, and don't want to do a full wet exit, you can do what we call the bow dip. Find a friend and position yourself at the bow of your friend's boat. Lower yourself into

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the water while holding on to the bow of the other boat. Relax and enjoy cooling off. To come up, use your hips to draw the boat back under you keeping your head near your hands until you are back up.



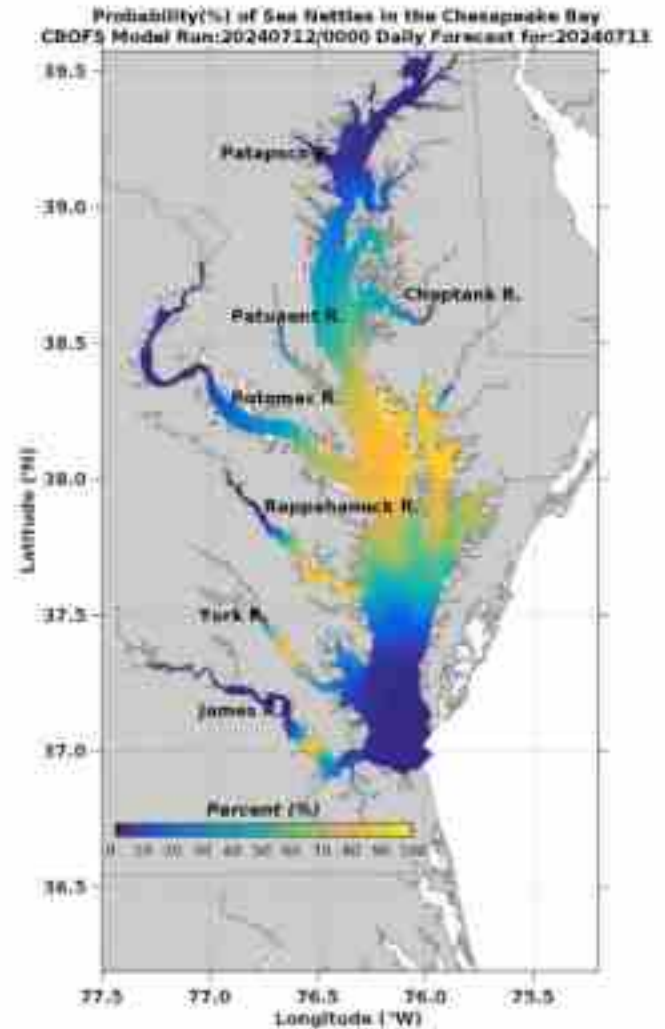
And now I'm going to throw some "cold water" on using the bay for cooling. First, there are sea nettles, also known as *Chrysaora chesapeakei*. Contact with these can result in a rather nasty sting. The warm water can also be contaminated with farm runoff resulting in toxic algae blooms. Finally, bacterial levels can be high particularly after a heavy rain. Fortunately, we have tools to help predict where these events may be occurring.

### Some helpful links:

**Sea Nettle Probability:** <https://ocean.weather.gov/Loops/SeaNettles/prob/SeaNettles.php>

**Algae Bloom Map:** <https://eyesonthebay.dnr.maryland.gov/eyesonthebay/habs.cfm>

**Beach Status:** <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/water/MHB/Pages/Current-Conditions.aspx>



As always, happy paddling and make sure that you stay safe and healthy while kayaking.

Paula Hubbard  
CPA Coordinator.





## Paul Fofonoff



If anyone has more photos of Paul that have not already been sent in please send them to [Sue](#) or [Rich](#) Stevens so that they can forward them to SERC and Paul's relatives for possible use in the SERC memorial this Fall.

ecologists - that is a serious loss. He was a very down to earth guy, loved all things in the marshes.

That approach and understanding was critical to his work at the SERC Marine Invasions Lab. He kept track of the occurrence and range and history of the native marine species, of all taxa, in North American waters. That information is critical - if you don't know who the natives are, then how can you tell who are newcomers? The work involved a lot of library work through historical records and the organizing of an enormous amount of data.

One of the groups he was pretty involved with was the Appalachian Mountain Club. Outside of work hours, Paul also indulged his interests in nature on land and water by hiking, birding, kayaking, and learning about the plants and critters around us. He particularly enjoys leading people on walks, hikes, and paddling trips, and can show people plants and animals, and talk about the relations of plants, animals, and

**Very Sad news:** CPA Pirates of Arundell paddler Paul Fofonoff passed away at home suddenly in late May 2024. Paul Fofonoff is a 20 year CPA Life Member of Chesapeake Paddlers Association, joining in 2002. Paul lived very near the water in Shadyside, MD, and often commuted to work at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) on Muddy Creek by kayak. He



would have been a young 72 in July.

His Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) community of family – located along the Rhode & West Rivers near Edgewater, MD – will be planning a celebration of Paul's life in the fall, paying tribute to the many contributions he made to marine invasions and marine ecology and his importance to the SERC community. The hope is to have this in the fall after the field season, with notice enough for folks from afar to attend if they wish.

We at CPA will remember Paul for his regular supply of Pepperidge Farm cookies (Milano was his favorite) and his good cheer, his red kayak, and his deep knowledge of all the Latin names for the plants along any route- especially those sedges. He was the lead author on his thirty-fifth paper to be published soon: <https://serc.si.edu/staff/paul-fofonoff>

Paul was a real natural historian/naturalist. He could identify just about anything we asked him about (animals as well as plants) and relate some interesting life history. That sort of breadth is no longer very common in professional biologists /



humans on the land and in the water. Paul regularly led some of these trips at SERC, but also enjoy exploring the Bay, its rivers, and the surrounding mountains.

# Paddler Profile

## Alan Hamerstrom

Congratulations to Alan who has recently become a 20 year CPA LIFE MEMBER

### Alan and Hellen live in:

Arnold, MD on the Magothy River (near Spriggs Farm launching site).

**Real job?:** Retired, so now my real job is keeping my wife happy.

**Do you regularly attend a CPA Piracy?** No, but I have residual hopes.

**Number of years paddling?** 75, but only 15 in kayaks.

**How did you get involved in sea kayaking?** I saw people paddling near my home and they seemed to enjoy what they were doing....so I got a kayak.

**What boat(s) do you paddle?** Wilderness Systems Tsunami 160.

**Rudder or skeg?** No.

**Type of paddle used:** Euro-blade – nothing special.

**Do you do any other paddling than sea kayaking?** I used to paddle and sail a canoe. At age 23 I went from Minneapolis to New Orleans in my sailing canoe (alone).

**Do you regularly do any other outdoor activities?** Was a serious (but incompetent) golfer until my left knee complained too much. Now I just do my own yard work and maintain my Pedrick 47 sailboat as “outdoor activities.”

**How often do you paddle between May and October?** Three years ago I kayaked about two or three times a week except in “real” winter. Health problems stopped me, but I am slowly recovering to the point of resuming.

**Do any winter paddling?** Some. I have a wet suit, but when I would need it I usually just decide to stay home.

**Favorite local paddling location?** Off my beach on the Magothy River

**Favorite CPA trip you’ve ever been on and why?** Did one short, evening paddle with the Pirates of Pier 7. I liked it, but was too busy to make such events a priority.

**Coolest paddling trip you’ve ever been on anywhere and why?** My, all-summer, trip down the Mississippi River in my sailing canoe.



### Scariest/most dangerous paddling trip/incident and why?

Once I came too damned close to getting killed by a towboat pushing about twenty barges on the Mississippi River. The current was pushing me into its path and the wind was so strong that even with a triple reef in my sail, it took three tries to tack to safety. The towboat skipper must have thought I was so stupid I deserved to die.

**Bucket list trips?** None yet, but maybe the upper Potomac River.

**Three things you like most about paddling?** 1) Keeps the

muscles toned up 2) Soothing for the mind 3) Maintains the illusion of youth

**What do you like about CPA?** The people seem to have a great relationship with one another, and the organization seems very well run.

**What other paddling clubs/groups do you belong to?** None

**One unusual non-paddling thing we’d be surprised to know about you?** I don’t wish to seem immodest, but picking one thing is about impossible for me. At age eighty-three (going on fifty), I can look back at an absurdly interesting life. (Crossed the Atlantic on an ocean liner at eleven years old – alone; lived with the family of a German ornithology professor for a year (at the end of that ocean passage); was president of



the Yacht Brokers Association of America for three years; sailed a canoe down the Mississippi River (as mentioned before); have visited thirty-five foreign countries.....and lots more - but this is excessive already.

However, I will mention that I did NOT start life with a silver spoon in my mouth. I do subscribe to the concept that none of us can really say “I made it on my own,” and I am thankful to all who helped me along the way.

Alan and Hellen at Galapagos Island



## Non-CPA Event: Anne Arundel County To Host River Days Festivals This Summer

Dear Neighbor,

Today County Executive Stuart Pittman announced that Anne Arundel County is expanding River Days to five different locations this summer, providing even more families the opportunity to get out on the water, celebrate our local rivers, and learn how to protect them.

Each festival will feature fun activities for all ages, including water activities, environmental educators, boat rides, live music, food trucks, games, crafts, facepainting, county agencies, and more.

**Registration is free and required for entry**, as capacity is limited. **Registration does not include**

**boat ride tickets**, which are also free but must be reserved separately for a specific time slot.

Registration for the first River Days festival will **open on Wednesday, May 29th at 12pm** at [aacounty.org/riverdays](http://aacounty.org/riverdays). Registration for entry and boat ride reservations will open one month prior to each event date. [Sign up here](#) to be notified once registration is open for each event.

For questions and special accommodations requirements, please email [riverdays@aacounty.org](mailto:riverdays@aacounty.org). Please do not contact the venues with questions about River Days.

We hope to see you at River Days!

Saturday, July 20th 11 AM - 4 PM

[Annapolis Maritime Museum Park](#)

In partnership with Chesapeake Region Accessible Boating and Annapolis Sailing School  
7300 Edgewood Rd, Annapolis, MD 21403

**Registration will open Monday, July 1st at 12pm. Additional boat ride tickets will be added on July 1st at 7pm.**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Sunday, August 11th 11 AM - 4 PM

[West River Center](#)

5100 Chalk Point Rd, West River, MD 20778

**Registration will open Thursday, August 1st. Boat ride tickets will become available at 12pm and 7pm.**

Sunday, August 25th 11 AM - 4 PM

[Quiet Waters Park](#)

600 Quiet Waters Park Rd, Annapolis, MD 21403

**Registration will open Thursday, August 1st. Boat ride tickets will become available at 12pm and 7pm.**

Saturday, September 14th 11 AM - 4 PM

[Fort Smallwood Park](#)

9500 Fort Smallwood Rd, Pasadena, MD 21122

**Registration will open Wednesday, August 28th. Boat ride tickets will become available at 12pm and 7pm.**



## Community News — Action Item —

# Make your Voice Heard for Future of Homewood Park

By Lisa Arrasmith

Once again County Executive Steuart Pittman and the Department of Recreation and Parks want to put private rowing clubs in Homeport Farm Park, a public county park. This is the fourth time in 15 years that the County has tried to put a publicly funded multi million dollar rowing center for two private clubs in Homeport Farm Park, despite the deed restrictions that stopped it the first three times.

Email County Executive Pittman [HERE](mailto:homeport-farms@aacounty.org) ==> [homeport-farms@aacounty.org](mailto:homeport-farms@aacounty.org) by Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 6 pm and tell him NOT to put a rowing center in Homeport Farm Park! Tell him what Homeport means to you, tell him how you've used Homeport, tell him not to turn our public Homeport Farm Park over to private clubs! Remember to include your full name and street address so he knows that you are a real person. You can also use the comment link [HERE](https://www.aacounty.org/locations/homeport-farm-park) ==> <https://www.aacounty.org/locations/homeport-farm-park>

A rowing center will dominate this small 25 acre passive park, sooner than later squeezing out general public water access and the other low impact activities - dog walking, bird watching, jogging - that people enjoy in Homeport.

**BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!** IF you live in Anne Arundel County, look up your County Councilperson [HERE](https://www.aacounty.org/county-council/council-districts) ==> <https://www.aacounty.org/county-council/council-districts> and forward your Homeport email to your Councilmember with a sentence or two asking them not to put a rowing center in Homeport Farm Park. Make your email work a little harder!

**BUT WAIT, THERE'S A LITTLE MORE!** Spread the word! Ask others to email the County Executive Pittman against a rowing center in Homeport Farm Park and tell them how to email him. **REMEMBER the deadline is Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 6 pm!**

Thank you.

Lisa Arrasmith



Editor Note: See Natallie Jones July 15 Article in Capital Gazette and Baltimore Sun [**Comment Deadline was extended to August 13**]

[Prospect of rowing club at Homeport Farm Park in Edgewater draws mixed reactions \(capitalgazette.com\)](https://www.capitalgazette.com)

Also see Donna Cole July 15th Editorial in Annapolis Creative Blog

<https://www.annapoliscreative.com/editorial-homeport-farm-park-and-the-county-executives-refusal-to-hear-people-again-and-again-and-again/>

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to stage and launch our kayaks. Charles County Recreation, Parks and Tourism Department wisely has a process for securing overnight parking permits at this park, and I was happy to meet Mallows Bay Park manager Elena Gilroy at the launch as we prepared. She wished us “happy paddling” and assured us that the park was closed at night.

The first thing we encountered on launching was the “Ghost Fleet” of mostly-WWI vintage wooden shipwrecks now



**Figure 2 Paddle-in campsite at Leesylvania SP, VA**

protected in the [Mallows Bay National Marine Sanctuary](#). These [wooden-hulled steam ships](#) were built in a frenzy of activity to provide shipping for America’s WWI war effort, only to be made obsolete before being finished by the Armistice. Not commercially viable, they were salvaged here on the Potomac for their valuable scrap steel in the nails and straps used to hold the planks together. One particularly imposing wreck is the remains of the steel-hulled car ferry *Accomack*, which once plied between Cape Charles and Norfolk.

We paddled up the Maryland shore beyond the wrecks and past a large abandoned sand dredge, Chickamuxen Creek, the remains of WWII docks and anchorages used by the Stump Neck Annex, and the mouth of Mattawoman Creek, to make our river crossing to the oil pier at Cockpit Point. Even though the wind was light (less than 10 mph), the large fetch up the Potomac made for 2-3 foot rollers in the main channel of the Potomac as we crossed.

After about 10 miles, we landed at the paddle-in campsite at Bushy Point, just down Powells Creeks from the RR trestle, unloaded our heavily-packed kayaks and set up camp in the comfortable tent pads. One of our intrepid campers (who shall remain nameless!) discovered that the tent poles had not made it into the kayak with the tent, but several of us ex-Boy Scouts soon had a serviceable jury-rig set up. Fortunately, the threatened rain showers never materialized to test our Scout skills. Our first night treat was a small watermelon, which sweetened our dehydrated meals (and got a large and

heavy item out of my food bag!). The duty ranger checked in with us as he ushered the day visitors out of the park, and we soon settled in for a mostly-peaceful night only interrupted by the nearby train traffic, a late night fishing boat off the shore, and a lucky owl shrieking his triumph as he made a nocturnal kill.



**Figure 3 Paul inspects another WWI wreck below Brent Marsh near Widewater**

After an early start on a brightening morning, we paddled down the western shore of the Potomac, which is far more developed than the opposing Maryland shoreline. In slow succession, we passed the oil pier and asphalt plant at Possum Nose, Dominion Energy’s Possum Point power plant, the towers of the high-tension power lines crossing the Potomac to Maryland, and Quantico Marine Base. While we were paddling by, one of the huge military transport planes took off from the base with a tremendous roar and soared over our heads down the Potomac on a mission somewhere. Very impressive!

We put in for lunch on a secluded beach just below Quantico, still close enough to the railroad tracks to hear freight trains lumbering by unseen in the woods behind us.

On the afternoon’s paddle, we found another couple of WWI wrecks standing proud of the water surface just below Brent Marsh near the town of Widewater. We stopped briefly at the newly-constructed boat ramp in the upriver portion of Widewater SP, temporarily closed due to severe silting of the ramp. There is a small cove created by turtle rip rap adjacent to the ramp, but no formal kayak launch is planned here.

In the early afternoon, 13.5 miles from our launch, we arrived at Widewater SP’s welcoming cove and lugged our many dry bags up the winding concrete path to the nicely-groomed paddle-in campsite, adjacent to a gleaming bath house. We were welcomed by Ranger Will, who was happy to have us using the site and remembered our previous trip in 2019. He even arranged for a colleague who lived near by to find a toothbrush for Joe, who had neglected to pack his. Talk about service! We set up camp and enjoyed a restful afternoon,

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**Figure 4 Sunset at Widewater SP paddle-in kayak landing**

beautiful sunset views from the beach, and a quiet night of sleep.

Saturday dawned beautifully and we loaded up and got underway for Caledon SP, kayaking down past the mouth of Aquia Creek, Potomac Creek, and past the waterfront of Fairview Beach. We landed at a small beach on the Virginia shore opposite the Maryland Point light platform for a quick lunch, then finished the 14 mile run to Metomkin Point, the location of the Caledon SP paddle-in campsites. I've been enjoying these sites since they first opened in 2014 (we camped here the night BEFORE the official dedication by Governor Terry McAuliffe). The sites were unexpectedly busy, with three other sets of campers (no kayakers) sharing camp with us.

Sunset was particularly spectacular on Saturday evening, which probably should have been a clue that the weather was changing. We awoke on Sunday, packed up and readied for our second crossing of the Potomac, from Caledon to Riverside, MD. The west wind was on our beam but not strong (about 10 mph). We would be paddling into it most of the way back to Mallows Bay as it started in the west and clocked around to the NW. Rounding Maryland Point and the Lions Club Camp Merrick, we started to hit stronger winds. Just about at Thomas Point, near the abandoned [Navy radio astronomical satellite dishes](#), a NOAA weather alert came over the VHS warning of strong winds (34 mph) and high waves due to a passing front. We quickly looked for a suitable beach, but the cliffs along this stretch didn't give us very good

shelter. As the wind rose, we finally found a narrow beach with large rocks that would shelter us from larger waves. It was a bit of a scramble as winds rose to what I estimate to 25 mph, but we got in and dragged the loaded boats up to the back of the beach and hunkered down.



**Figure 5 At camp at Caledon SP paddle-in sites**



**Figure 6 Sunset at Caledon SP**

NOAA's small craft warning was expected to last until 9 PM, but the wind had already delayed our return to Mallows quite a bit. I paced the beach watching for the winds to subside and watching some power boats and a sailboat weather the higher

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### **Wanted: More Paddler Profiles**

Paddler Profiles are a newsletter feature designed to feature...YOU! We'd like to know more about CPA members and this is your chance to tell us more about your paddling experience, what draws you to the water and what else is going on in your life.

Just fill out the few simple questions [here](#) and [send us](#) a recent photo of you in paddling mode. We'll do the rest, and soon all your CPA paddling buddies will know more about you.

For a complete roster of past Paddler Profiles, see the CPA Website [here](#).



**Figure 7** Some wind chop on the final leg back to Mallows Bay

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waves out on the river. Finally, after about 45 minutes things calmed down a bit and we got back on the water. It was a continuing slog back against 15 mph head winds, but after 15 miles, we at last rounded Liverpool Point and blew into the Mallows Bay landing with

the wind at our back (briefly) at 5:30 PM. Unloading and getting the boats back on vehicles and into dry clothes (we were pretty well soaked after landing and relaunching in waves several times) took another hour, and then we parted ways, tired and happy to have completed our particular

Potomac Passage. We had done a total of 52.5 miles over four days of kayak touring and camped at three of the premier paddle-in camping spots on this middle stretch of the great Potomac River.

**D**o you enjoy reading about the paddling adventures, local and distant, of other members? Do you like getting new ideas for paddling trips?

Are you advocating for paddling access or amenities in your area?

Have you pondered questions relating to kayak gear? Variety is the spice of life, and of newsletters.

Please write an article reflecting your thoughts, experiences, and discoveries to share with our paddling community.

We all become a bit wiser and excited to be on the water again. We need your input to make *The Chesapeake Paddler* the best it can be.

Submit stories or ideas to [news\\_editor@cpakayaker.com](mailto:news_editor@cpakayaker.com). We look forward to sharing your story

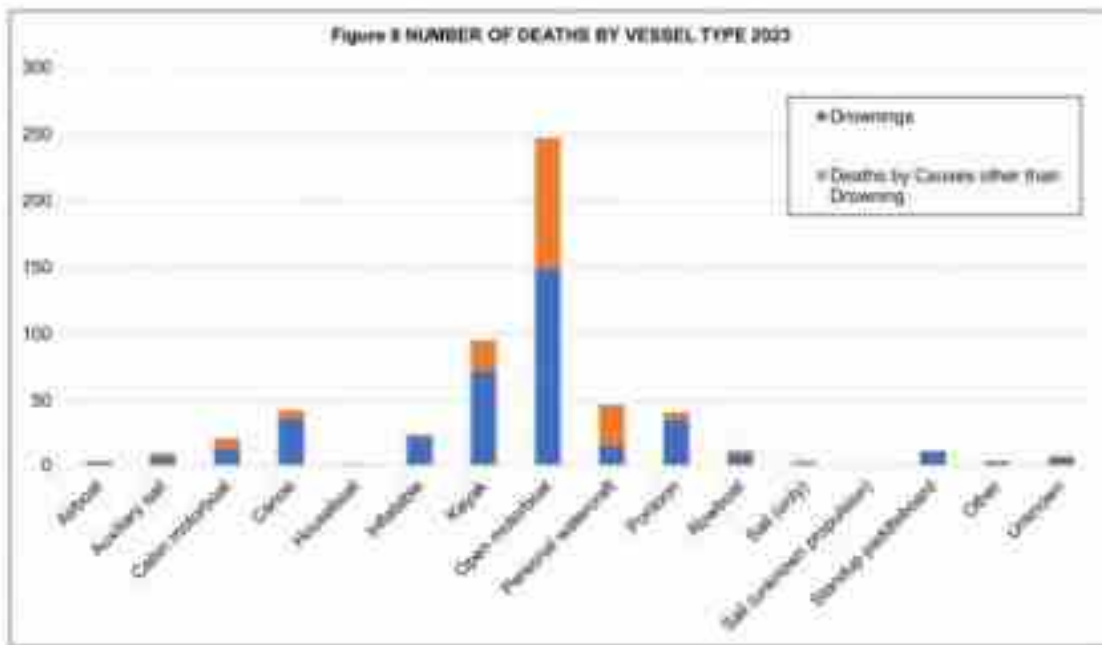
## What Do Coast Guard Safety Statistics Say About Kayak Safety?

By Ralph Heimlich

[Recreational Boating Statistics 2023](#), the 65th annual report by the U.S. Coast Guard, contains statistics on recreational boating accidents and state vessel registration. This publication is a result of the coordinated effort of the Coast Guard and those states and territories that have Federally-approved boat numbering and casualty reporting systems. The report came out on May 24, 2024 I've summarized the report's findings for kayaks below.

General findings of the report are:

- In calendar year 2023, the Coast Guard counted 3,844 accidents that involved 564 deaths, 2,126 injuries and approximately \$63 million dollars of damage to property as a result of recreational boating accidents.
- The fatality rate was 4.9 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels. This rate represents a 9.3% decrease from the 2022 fatality rate of 5.4 deaths per 100,000 registered recreational vessels.
- Compared to 2022, the number of accidents decreased 4.9%, the number of deaths decreased 11.3%, and the number of injuries decreased 4.3%.
- Where cause of death was known, 75% of fatal boating accident victims drowned. Of those drowning victims with reported life jacket usage, 87% were not wearing a life jacket.
- Where length was known, 4 of every 5 boaters who drowned were using vessels less than 21 feet in length.

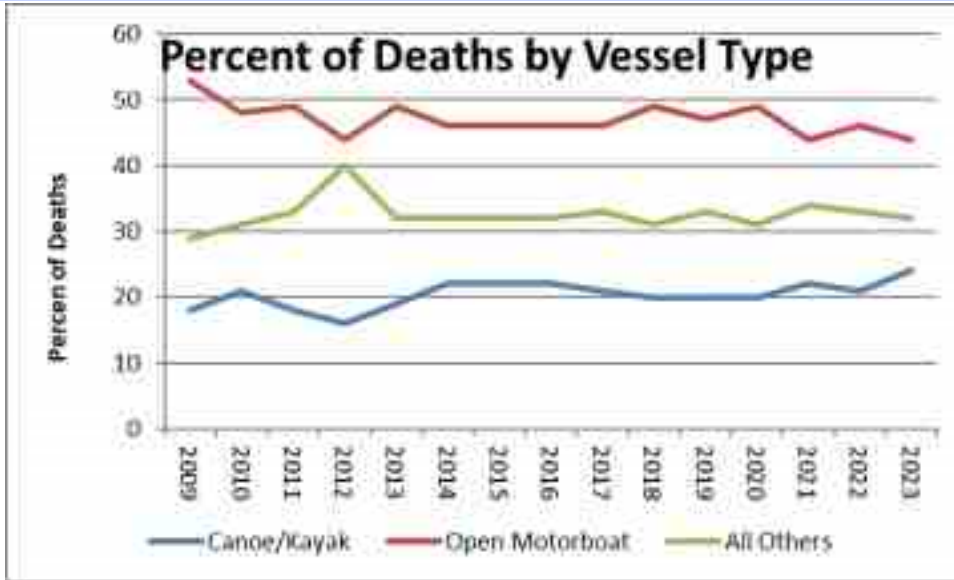


While the general trend is toward fewer accidents and fatalities, mostly centered in smaller craft, the trend for kayaks has been increasing in recent years.

In 2023, 144 kayaks were involved in accidents (2.7 percent of all vessels in accidents), resulting in 95 deaths (16.8 percent of all deaths) and 44 injuries (2 percent of total). The majority of kayaks involved in accidents (65 percent) were owned rather than rented. A little less than half of accidents involving kayaks were due to capsizing, while 22 percent were due to falling overboard. Of the 95 deaths, 72 (75 percent) were due to drowning. Deaths related to kayaks were second only to open motorboats in 2023, and the trend for kayaks/canoes between 2009 and 2023 increased from 18 percent of all deaths to 24 percent, while deaths in open motorboats

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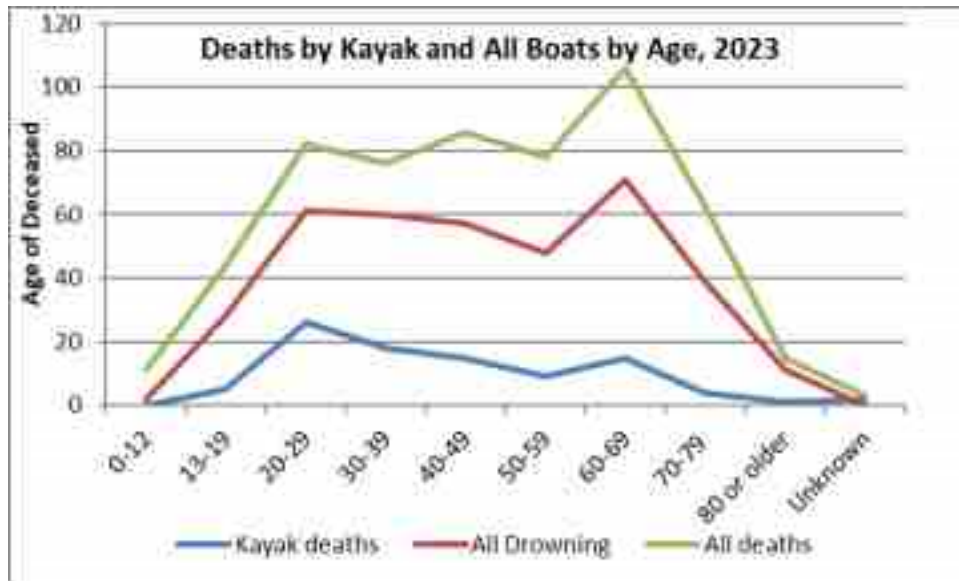




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decreased from 53 percent to 44 percent. Of the 44 injured in kayaks in 2023, 27 were injured from hypothermia, 4 from concussion, and 4 from internal organ injuries. Of the 72 drowning deaths in kayaks in 2023, 60 were NOT wearing life jackets.

Between 2019 and 2023, more than 1,400 accidents in all kinds of boats occurred in Bay states, with almost 200 deaths. Maryland had 46 percent of Bay area accidents for all boats, and 26 percent of deaths, with fewer for Virginia, Pennsylvania and Delaware.



Accidents and Fatalities, All Boats, 2019-2023 by State			
	Accidents	Fatal Accidents	Deaths
Maryland	661	45	50
Virginia	418	72	83
Delaware	89	11	12
Pennsylvania	261	42	45
	1429	170	190

# Upcoming Events for July-Aug

See [CPA Meetup Page](#) for Details and be sure to RSVP for all events

<b>Pirates of Georgetown</b>	Thursday, July 18, 2024 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM EDT Every week on Thursday until October 24, 2024	<a href="#">Columbia Island Marina</a> George Washington Mem Pkwy · Arlington, VA	Jesse and 2 others
<b>Pirates of the North (PON) Paddles</b> - Charlestown Wharf, Charlestown, MD	Thursday, July 18, 2024 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Charlestown Wharf (Long Wharf Park, Stone Wharf)</a> Charlestown, MD	Joan S. and 2 others
<b>Now A Car Camper: PPM24 #7:</b> Westmoreland SP to Colonial Beach and back	Friday, July 19, 2024 at 10:00 AM to Sunday, July 21, 2024 at 12:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Westmoreland State Park</a> 145 Cliff Rd · Montross, VA	Ralph Heimlich
<b>NEW LAUNCH SPOT NOW -</b> Thomas Point Lighthouse	Saturday, July 20, 2024 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM EDT	<a href="#">Discovery Village</a> 4800 Atwell Road · Shady Side, MD	Jim Z
Non-CPA Event: Chesapeake Bay SAV Watchers Training Session	Tuesday, July 23, 2024 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM EDT	See <a href="https://www.chesapeakemonitoringcoop.org/chesapeake-bay-sav-watchers/">https:// www.chesapeakemonitoringc oop.org/chesapeake-bay-sav- watchers/</a>	Ralph Heimlich
Wednesday guests @ Selby on the Bay Community Beach	Wednesday, July 24, 2024 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">3715 1st Ave</a> 3715 1st Ave · Edgewater, MD	Sue Stevens . and Jess Parker
Camp and Paddle at Belle Isle SP, Virginia	Thursday, July 25, 2024 at 7:00 PM to Sunday, July 28, 2024 at 9:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Belle Isle State Park</a> 1632 Belle Isle Rd · Lancaster, VA	Ralph Heimlich
Non-CPA Event: Sails Angels Cupsuptic Gathering	Monday, July 29, at 10:00 AM to Friday, August 9, at 12:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Cupsuptic Lake Park and Campground</a> 960 Wilson Mills Rd · Rangeley, ME	Greg Welker
<b>Pirates of Baltimore Evening</b> Paddle - Rocky Point park	Tuesday, July 30, 2024 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Rocky Point Park and Beach</a> 2200 Rocky Point Rd · Essex, MD	Sophie
Let's go exploring Solley's Cove & nearby sunkin' ship wrecks	Wednesday, July 31, 2024 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Solleys Cove Park</a> 7360 Carbide Rd · Curtis Bay, MD	Sue Stevens
<b>Pirates of the Patuxent</b> - Hallowing Point	Thursday, August 1, 2024 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM EDT Every 1st Thursday of the month until October 3, 2024	<a href="#">Hallowing Point Boat Ramp</a> Prince Frederick, MD	Tony T. and Daniel W.
PPM24#8: Bushwood Wharf to St. Clements Island and return	Saturday, August 10, 2024 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM EDT	<a href="#">Bushwood Wharf Pier</a> 36889 Bushwood Wharf Rd · Bushwood, MD	Ralph Heimlich
Safety Boat and Mentor Youth Kayakers	Wednesday, August 21, 2024 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM EDT	<a href="#">Patuxent Riverkeeper</a> 17412 Nottingham Rd · Upper Marlboro, MD	Ralph Heimlich

## The Chesapeake Paddlers Association, Inc.

The mission of the Chesapeake Paddlers Association is to provide a way for people to enjoy sea kayaking within the Chesapeake Bay area and to promote safe sea kayaking practices through educating the local sea kayaking community and the interested public.

Websites: [www.cpakayaker.com](http://www.cpakayaker.com), [CPA Facebook page](#); [CPA Meetup page](#)

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### The Chesapeake Paddler

The *Chesapeake Paddler* is published 10 times a year, with combination issues in Nov/Dec and Jan/Feb. The deadline for submitting copy is the 15th of the preceding month. Articles and illustrations (graphics, photos) should be submitted as separate attachments to: [news\\_editor@cpakayaker.com](mailto:news_editor@cpakayaker.com)

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### Email Distribution, Dues Payments and Ad policy

All *Paddler* newsletters are sent via email with a link to the current monthly issue. Please be sure to keep your email address current to keep receiving the *Paddler* newsletter and for reminders of when your membership is up for renewal by contacting the [CPA Secretary](#).

If your CPA membership has expired, or will expire soon, please send in your dues to: CPA, P.O. Box 341, Greenbelt, MD 20768-0341 or use the [Online Membership](#) option to use PayPal or find more information about membership.

Display advertising that relates to the interests of our readers is accepted, contact the editor at [news\\_editor@cpakayaker.com](mailto:news_editor@cpakayaker.com) for ad rates and specifications. Public service announcements and personal ads to sell kayaks/ accessories are published at no charge; non-members pay \$10 per ad.

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VACANT — Please consider volunteering

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