

Welcome to Elk Neck State Park



Elk Neck State Park is located in Cecil County on a peninsula, formed by the Chesapeake Bay on the west and the Elk River on the east. The park has 2,370 acres of land with varied landscapes that include marshlands, heavily wooded areas, white clay cliffs and sandy shorelines.

Elk Neck State Park is divided into four areas. The Turkey Point Lighthouse Area is located at the southern tip of the Elk Neck Peninsula and features a trail to the historic Turkey Point Light Station and expansive views of the Chesapeake Bay. The North East Beach Area is a popular day-use area located in the western portion of the park and features a swimming area, canoe/kayak launch, picnic shelters, picnic tables and grills. The Rogues Harbor Boat Launch Facility offers public boating access to the Elk River and fishing piers. The Elk River Camping Area is located on the eastern portion of the peninsula and offers over 250 campsites, 15 cabins (nine mini/camper cabins and six rustic cabins), a youth group camping area, park store, playground and a nature center.

Environmental Education at Elk Neck State Park

Elk Neck offers regular weekend programming Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Refer to the following links for other interpretive programs offered throughout the year. Call 410-287-5333 or email elkneck.statepark@maryland.gov to register for an event.

Calendar of Events: https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Documents/ENSP_Calendar.pdf

Junior Rangers & Park Pals: <https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/Pages/central/ElkNeck/Junior-Rangers.aspx>

Self-Guided Activities: *Email the Environmental Education Coordinator for the program.*

Volunteering at Elk Neck

Are you interested in volunteering at Elk Neck State Park with your group? Call 410-287-5333 or email elkneck.statepark@maryland.gov and provide your group's name, the type of project you would be interested in, potential project dates and the contact person's information (name, email and phone number). Park Staff will reach out to collect more specifics from you and to start planning your conservation project.

To schedule a program or for more information, please call or email using the contact information listed below:

Ranger Shawna Staup
Environmental Education Coordinator
Phone: 410-287-5333
Email: shawna.staup@maryland.gov



Wes Moore, Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary



Program Information

Elk Neck State Park offers educational opportunities designed for a variety of age levels. The programs are 45 minutes to an hour in length and can be presented in stations for large groups. A picnic area is available for bag lunches. Special programs cost \$3 per participant. Please let park staff know if you have any questions or concerns about pricing or need special accommodations as we would be happy to work with your group. If the following program list does not meet your group's need, you can request a specific program topic.

Adaptation Artistry

What do birds need to survive? Learn how different species of birds have adapted in order to survive in their environment. Then try your adaptive survival tactics in an interactive game.

All About Trees

We rely on trees and products made from trees everyday. Get moving while you learn more about a tree's life cycle and what they need to survive.

Birding 101

Have you ever looked up into the sky, saw a bird and wondered what kind of bird it was? Learn characteristics of common birds and how to use binoculars to successfully identify the birds you see.

Camping 101

Can you build a fire? Can you set up a tent? Learn the basic skills needed for a successful camping trip.

Forests and Conservation

Participate in an interactive game as you learn about the important components of a thriving ecosystem and what you can do to help protect the local environment.

The Great Migration Challenge

Can you survive the journey? Move through a life-size game board to discover the challenges of a migrating bird.

Habitat Hike ★

How many habitats can you find in the forest? From woods to wetlands, choose from one of several hikes to see why habitats are so important to flora and fauna.

Hawk Watch

Look high in the sky and you may see a vulture, hawk, eagle, or other type of raptor! Learn how to identify these birds of prey by color, shape, silhouette and size.

Killer Trash ★

Give the Earth a helping hand! Learn about the dangers of marine debris, and take action by participating in a clean-up in the park or around your school.

Leave No Trace

Learn about the 7 Principles of Leave No Trace and how you can enjoy the natural world while also having minimal impact on the environment.

Nature Journaling

Nature is always changing and a nature journal is an excellent way of keeping track of what is happening in the natural world. Create your own nature journal, record and explore what is outside our back door.

Orienteering ★

Learn to use a compass and find your way through the forest. This course is great for beginners!

Outdoor Survival

You are lost in the woods; how do you survive? Learn to use the natural resources around you to survive in the wilderness.

Ranger Round-Up

Do you want to become a Park Ranger? Learn about what is involved to become a Park Ranger, what the job entails and important tools used in this career.

Storytime & Craft

After an exciting day in the park, who wouldn't want to sit back and listen to a story? Learn about a local species through a fun story and an interactive, hands-on activity.

Skull Detectives

You'll be amazed at what you can tell about an animal just by looking at the skull. You'll be put to the test as a Skull Detective using clues to identify a skull during this program.

Turkey Point History Hike ★

Why were lighthouses used? When was the Turkey Point Lighthouse built? Learn this and more during this fun two-mile hike.

Who Polluted the Chesapeake Bay?

Learn about the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries while discovering ways people impact The Bay.

★ Indicates programs that can be self-guided.

Elk Neck State Park offers additional self-guided programs and bonus activities. Call the park at 410-287-5333 or email the Environmental Education Coordinator for more information.