



PADDLEFEST
JANES ISLAND STATE PARK
CRISFIELD, MD

2026 Schedule of Events

Friday, June 5

3 pm-7 pm: Early Check-in/Registration at Camp Store

Saturday, June 6

7 am: Check-in at Camp Store/Registration Opens

7:45 am: *Janes Island Challenge* (Boats in the water at 7:45am. Start promptly at 8 am.)

This is a 13-mile paddle circumnavigating Janes Island, designed for experienced paddlers seeking a true test of skill and endurance. Participants should be prepared to navigate open water conditions, including wind and waves. Those who successfully complete the challenge will be awarded the Janes Island Challenge Coin.

8:15 am - 9 am: *Tranquil Waters Yoga* (Meet Outside Nature Center)

Start your day with a relaxing yoga and meditation session along the waterfront. This guided practice will help improve flexibility and energy, build strength, and reduce stress and anxiety. We have a limited number of mats, please bring your own towel or mat if you have one.

9 am –11 am: *Wetland Wings Birding Paddle*(Meet at 8:45 am)

Glide quietly through winding salt marsh channels on this guided birding paddle, where the rhythm of the water sets the pace for discovery. This immersive experience offers excellent opportunities to observe coastal bird species in their natural habitat, from wading birds and waterfowl to ospreys soaring overhead. Along the way, learn how tides, grasses, and shallow waters support a rich and dynamic ecosystem. Bring binoculars if you have them.

10 am – 12 pm: *Reel Therapy Fishing Paddle* (Meet at 9:45 am)

Paddle into the quiet backwaters of Janes Island on this guided fishing adventure through a thriving salt marsh ecosystem. Along the way, guides will share tips on reading the water, selecting lures or bait, and fishing effectively from a kayak. Learn how seasonal patterns influence fishing success and explore the life cycles and spawning habits of these species. Learn what fish feed on and how the salt marsh serves as a vital nursery, supporting a rich food web. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced angler, this paddle offers a unique blend of fishing, education, and immersion in one of the Chesapeake Bay's most productive environments.

11 am - 1 pm: *Seining the Sound Paddle* (Meet at 10:45 am)

Join us for a guided paddle exploring the underwater life of the Tangier Sound and the salt marshes surrounding Janes Island. Discover the diverse inhabitants that thrive beneath the surface as you travel through these unique coastal ecosystems.

1:30 pm – 3:30 pm: *Still Life on Water Art Paddle*

(Meet at 2:45 pm)

Do you enjoy both the arts and the outdoors? Join us for "Still Life on Water", where we combine watercolor painting and a leisurely kayak tour! Our painting will be inspired by the beauty and sounds of Janes Island. No previous experience required!

3 pm–5 pm: *Live Music Concert* (performing on the Nature Center Stage)

with Valerie Lankford and Medium Wave Jay

Bring your own chairs/blanket for an afternoon with musicians Valerie Lankford and Medium Wave Jay. A fun and entertaining duo playing a variety of classic and more modern pop and rock with an acoustic twist. Music sponsored by Somerset County Recreation, Parks & Tourism.

7 pm: *Sunset Serenity Paddle* (Meet at 6:45pm)

Expect a scenic 3-mile round-trip paddle to Flatcap Beach, followed by a peaceful return as the sun sets over the Chesapeake Bay. This experience is best suited for paddlers with established basic skills. Running lights will be provided for safety and visibility. The program lasts approximately 1.5 to 2 hours.

NOTE: The program is free in your own boat. Boat rentals are available at a charge - (\$20 solo, \$25 tandem/canoe. Payment will need to be made in advance of paddle)

7 pm: *Roasted and Toasted Campfire* at Nature Center

Join us on the waterfront for an evening of campfire fun featuring marshmallow roasting, s'mores, and a lively sing-along. Relax, unwind, and enjoy great company as the sun sets over the water.

Additional Activities offered on Saturday Only

10 am – 5 pm: *Guided Pontoon Boat Tours*

Tours depart from the marina and head south toward the Little Annemessex River, passing the island's southernmost point before returning. Along the way, enjoy a narrated journey exploring the rich history and modern-day life of Janes Island and the Crisfield area. Each round-trip tour lasts approximately one hour. Space is limited, and all trips are first come, first served.

10 am – 3 pm: *Nature Center open with Children's Activity Area*

Explore the Nature Center and enjoy a variety of self-guided crafts, hands-on activities, and fun games inspired by the natural world.

Sunday, June 7

7 am: *Focus on Feathers Birding Paddle* - (Meet at 6:45am)

Join us for an early Sunday morning guided paddle to see which birds are out and about around Janes Island. This paddle is great for beginners- adults and children (with an adult) are welcome!

Perfect for beginners and experienced birders alike. Bring binoculars if you have them, and be prepared for a peaceful, up-close look at one of the most productive environments on the coast.

8 am: *Floating Zen SUP/Paddleboard Yoga* (Meet at 7:45am)

SUP Yoga is an enjoyable way to challenge your balance, strength and flexibility. Participants will paddle a short distance anchor and practice some yoga on their boards. Fair warning, you are very likely to fall in the water so come prepared for a dip. We will finish our practice with a short meditation floating on the water.

10 am: *Cast and Kayak Paddle* - (Meet at 9:45am)

Join Ranger Brian for a guided fishing paddle to some of the hottest spots around Janes Island. Whether you're an experienced angler or trying it for the first time, this excursion offers a fun and relaxing way to fish the island's scenic waters. Bring your own rod if you have a favorite, or use one of ours—we'll provide rods, tackle, and bait. Adults and children (accompanied by an adult) are welcome.

NOTE: The program is free in your own boat. Boat rentals will be available at the camp store- hourly , ½ day or daily rates apply)