

Other Recreational Activities

Bird watching

The region includes a variety of ecosystems that support a diverse range of bird species, from neo-tropical migrants and woodland birds, to raptors of all sizes. Bird watching guides are available at www.whiteclayfriends.org (click on Birder's Guide), and www.birder.com/birding/index.html. Birding programs are frequent offerings at the parks. Contact park offices for details regarding state bird counts and surveys.



GREAT BLUE HERON. PHOTO © R. DARKE

Fishing

Rainbow and brown trout are stocked annually in White Clay Creek and Big Elk Creek. Both creeks are major seasonal fisheries, with seasons opening in early spring. Ponds in White Clay Creek State Park's Carpenter Recreation Area and Judge Morris Estate also offer fishing opportunities. See park websites or offices for more information on locations, licensing and other regulations, and advisories.



Hunting

Hunting opportunities are available in portions of the recreation areas of all three states. Hunting is seasonal, and by permit only. Check with the park offices for more information and licensing requirements.

Canoeing/kayaking

White Clay Creek and Big Elk Creek can be canoed or kayaked. However, conditions vary and times of extremely high or low water levels may be hazardous. Personal flotation devices are required at all times.

Programs and Special Events

See the facility/trails listing or park or nature center offices and websites for information. Locations of Nature Centers, sites of special activities and events are noted below.

- Delaware's White Clay Creek State Park Chambers House Nature Center, Carpenter Recreation Area, Judge Morris Estate, and Deerfield Golf and Tennis Club.
- New Castle County's Middle Run Valley Natural Area
- Pennsylvania's White Clay Creek Preserve London Tract Meeting House Nature Center
- Maryland's Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area Fair Hill Nature Center



PHOTO T. GARDNER

Directions

Delaware's White Clay Creek State Park

The Carpenter Recreation Area entrance is located about two miles northwest of Newark on DE Route 896. The Chambers House Nature Center is off Hopkins Bridge Road, just north of the Carpenter Recreation Area. The Park Office is located at the intersection of Thompson Station and Chambers Rock Roads. The Judge Morris Estate entrance is off Polly Drummond Hill Road, just north of the Kirkwood Highway. Deerfield Golf and Tennis Club's entrance is off Thompson Station Road, northwest of DE Route 72. Parking is also available at major trailheads. See map for details.

New Castle County, Delaware's Middle Run Valley Natural Area

Middle Run Valley Natural Area, adjacent to Newark's northeast boundary, is accessed off Possum Park Road just east of the intersection with Paper Mill Road. Enter on Possum Hollow Road. See map for details.

Pennsylvania's White Clay Creek Preserve

The White Clay Creek Preserve is in southern Chester County, three miles north of Newark, Delaware. It is reached from South Bank Road via DE Route 896, 11 miles south of the Forrestville exit of PA Route 1. The Park Office is located at 405 Sharpless Road, Landenberg. Adjacent to the Park Office is London Tract Meeting House, which houses the parks nature programming. Parking is also available at major trailheads. See map for details.

Maryland's Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area

Fair Hill NRMA borders Pennsylvania on the north and is located less than a half mile west of Delaware, on MD Route 273 between MD Route 213 and Little Egypt Roads. The Nature Center is located at 600 Tawes Drive, Elkton. Parking is available throughout the facility.

Facilities and Trails

	Trails	Trail length	Bicycling	Hiking	Horsebackriding
White Clay Creek State Park, DE					
		35+ miles			
Acres: 3,500	Boundary Line***	2.7 (PA 1.9 / DE 0.5)	•	•	
Historic Sites: Arc Corner Monument, Post Mark'd West Monument	Bryan's Field	2	•	•	
Gaming: Hunting* /Fishing** creeks and ponds	Chestnut Hill	3.5	•	•	
Programs/Exhibits: Year-round nature programs, youth summer camps, special events including summer concerts	Creek Road	2	•	•	•
Special Facilities: Golf, tennis, disc golf, event/banquet facilities	David English	2.5	•	•	
Contact information	Mason-Dixon	2.3		•	
www.destateparks.com/wccsp	Millstone	1		•	
Park office: 302.368.6900	Nature Preserve	2.2		•	
Nature Center: 302.368.6560	Pomeroy Rail	1.5	•	•	
	Tri-Valley	3.8	•	•	
	Twin Valley	3.5		•	
	Whitely Farms	3.2	•	•	
White Clay Creek Preserve, PA					
		8 miles			
Acres: 1,300	Pennel***	6.2	•	•	•
Historic Sites: Yeatman Mill House, London Tract Baptist Meetinghouse	Vaughn's***	3.2	•	•	•
Gaming: Hunting* /Fishing** creek	Charles Bailey***	2.4 (PA 1.3 / DE 1.4)		•	•
Programs/Exhibits: Late spring to fall nature programs					
Special facilities: Disc golf					
Contact information					
www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/parks/whiteclaycreek.aspx					
Park office: 610.274.2900					
Nature Center: 610.274.2471					
Middle Run Natural Area, New Castle County, DE					
		12 miles			
Acres: 900	Double Horseshoe	1	•	•	
Gaming: Fishing** creeks	Lenape	4.8	•	•	
Contact information	Possum Hollow	1.3	•	•	
www.co.new-castle.de.us/nccparks/home	Snow Goose	2.3	•	•	
Park office: 302.395.5790	Tri-Valley	1.6	•	•	
Fair Hill Nature Resource Management Area, MD					
		75 miles			
Acres: 5,600	Blue Diamond	6.7	•	•	•
Historic Sites: Foxcatcher Farm Covered Bridge	Blue	3.2	•	•	•
Gaming: Hunting* /Fishing** creek	Green	3.5	•	•	•
Programs/Exhibits: Year-round nature programs, youth summer camps, special events	Orange	4.7	•	•	•
Special Facilities: Primitive youth group camping sites, event/banquet facilities	Yellow	2.4	•	•	•
Contact information	Red	2.5	•	•	•
www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/central/fairhill.html					
Nature Center: www.fairhillnature.org					
www.fairhillraces.org					
www.cecilcountyfair.org					
Park office: 410.398.1246					
Nature Center: 410.398.4909					

*Check with park offices for licensing requirements and more information.
 **Fishing licenses are generally required for individuals 16 years of age and older. See park websites or offices for more information.
 ***Designated use may change along trail.