

# Maryland's Eastern Shore Trail Network

*All people throughout the Maryland's Eastern Shore are connected through a safe and sustainable trail network, from the shores of the Chesapeake to the beaches of the Atlantic, through the towns, fields, and forests between.*

## Maryland's Eastern Shore has...

**30% of the state's land mass.**

**9.2% of the state's 1,235 miles of road-separated trails.**

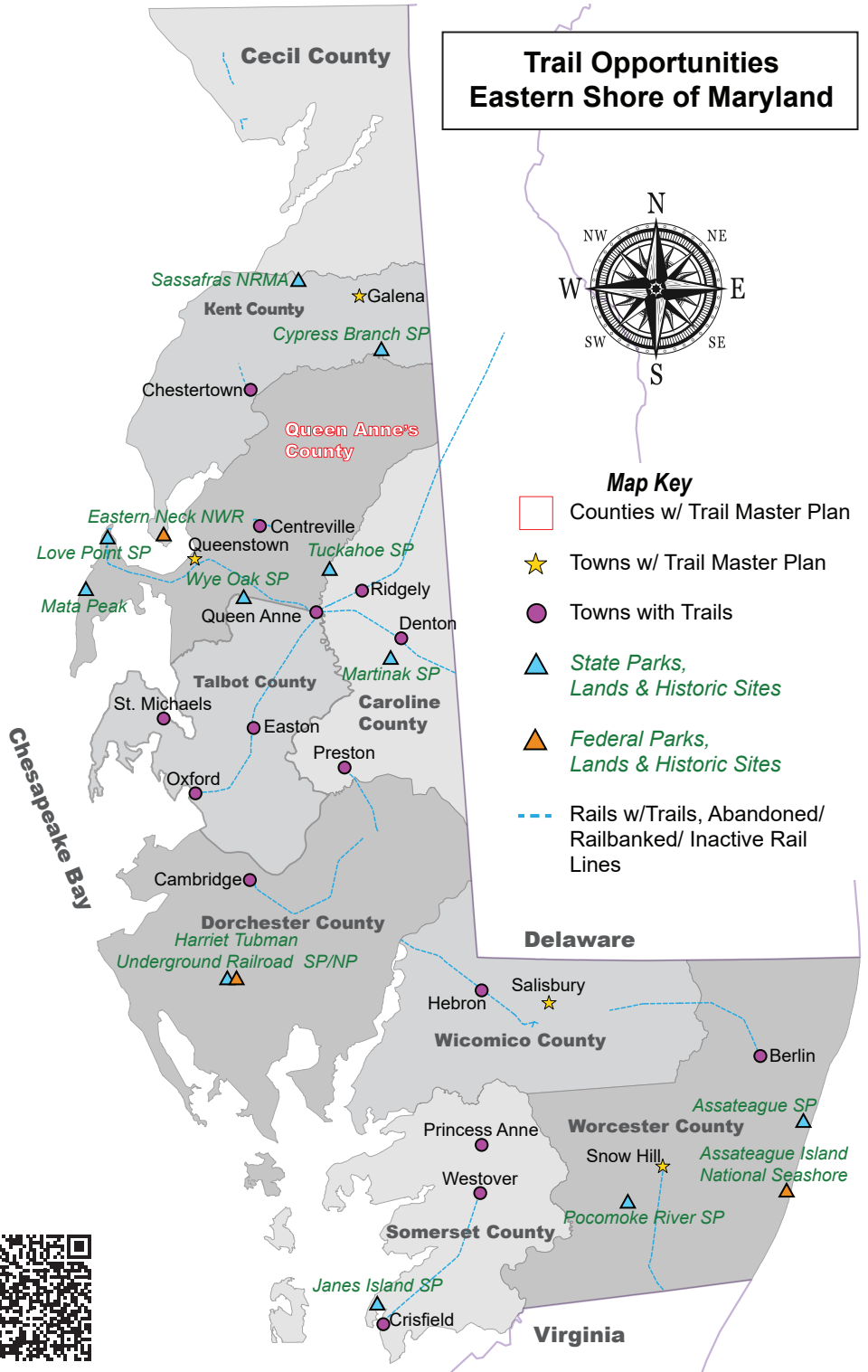
**7.5 million visitors annually.**

### A network of trails connecting Eastern Shore communities will:

- Encourage physical activity and healthy lifestyles.
- Create safe alternative transportation and equitable access to jobs and daily needs.
- Expand greenspaces and wildlife corridors
- Preserve the rural and agricultural character.
- Attract visitors interested in active recreation and exploring nature.
- Expand economic opportunity through new businesses and employment.

Scan for your county's parks & trails info.

[https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/Pages/Stewardship/Local\\_LPPRPs.aspx](https://dnr.maryland.gov/land/Pages/Stewardship/Local_LPPRPs.aspx)



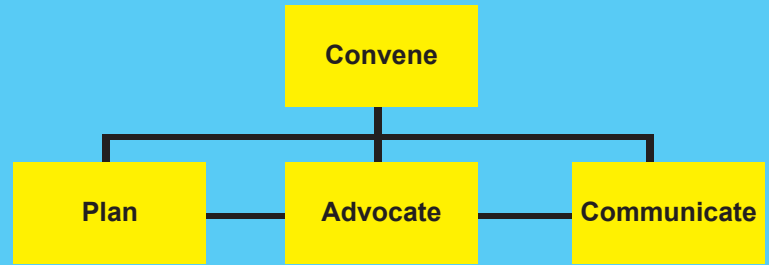
**A coalition of partners is working to identify and prioritize trail connections, collaborate across jurisdictions, and secure resources to plan and build a regional trail network. Join the coalition!**

**Committed Coalition Members**

- **ESLC**
- **Talbot Thrive**
- **Worcester Coalition**
- **Move SBY**
- **Somerset TrailMix**
- **Queen Anne’s County Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**
- **Beach to Bay Heritage Area**
- **Stories of the Chesapeake**

**Coalition Purpose:**

For the first phase of building the Regional Trail Network, Eastern Shore Land Conservancy is leading a team of trail experts and enthusiasts working with the National Park Service’s Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program to encourage advocates and partners to join these efforts in 2024.



**Why do we need trails...**

**Promote healthier lifestyles.**

- Proximity to trails increases physical activity for all.
- Accessibility improves mental and physical health.

**Creates safe alternative transportation, reducing automobile dependency.**

- Enables more people to safely reach jobs, schools, parks, and essential services.
- Creates affordable and equitable transportation opportunities.

**Expand preservation and access to open space.**

- Trails are linear parks providing connectivity.
- Stronger connections to agricultural, maritime, and cultural heritage increase their appreciation and stewardship.

**Attract economic growth, active recreation, and eco-tourism.**

- Access to recreation amenities, including trails, is highly valued by people across demographic lines.
- Recreation tourism and agritourism comprise the fastest-growing segments of travelers.



**72 Miles**  
of inactive, abandoned,  
and railbanked rail  
lines, many owned by  
MDOT, could become  
trails.

**Economic Impact**  
**\$1 : \$8**  
For every  
\$1 invested in trails  
and bicycle facilities,  
it can create a return  
of up to \$8.

*Great Allegheny Passage*

**1,400 jobs**  
created or supported  
annually, leading to  
increased sales at:  
**Restaurants,  
Lodging,  
&  
Retail Stores**

*North Carolina: Northern Outer Banks*

**43%**  
of all tourists, report  
that bicycling is an  
important factor in  
selecting this area for  
vacation.

*North Carolina: Northern Outer Banks*

**Learn more, share your ideas, and join the coalition here...**

