

## Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis

Annapolis has many attractions. More than just historic buildings, the state capital of Maryland is flourishing with activity. People enjoy walking the narrow streets window shopping or just stopping-in for bites to eat. Many fine restaurants and nightclubs are all over. Adding a somewhat romantic flavor, white or black uniformed Naval Academy cadets walk to and fro, reminding people of national pride and times when they themselves were younger. The place everyone who visits seems to get to is the harbor area. People go there to see and be seen. Even the boaters, coming back from a day on the bay or just trying to beat the auto traffic by coming from shoreline properties, cruise by on weekends in the evening hours.

### Getting There

From the Capital Beltway (I-495), take John Hanson Hwy., Rte. 50 north toward Annapolis. After approximately 17 miles from the beltway, take exit 22 for Aris T. Allen Blvd. (Rte. 665) east. After approximately 2 miles, bear right onto Forest Drive. After 3 miles turn right on Hillsmere Drive. Look for the sign for Quiet Waters Park on your right and enter the park. Pay the entrance fee at the gate house. The road splits and becomes one-way. Where it joins again, bear left, then immediately right again after passing the pond. Proceed 0.4 miles more to parking for Picnic Area N, the last before the road ends at a circle.

### Area Routes

#### Quiet Waters (4.2 miles, III)

Save the lively attractions of Annapolis for later. First, get a quieter experience touring Quiet Waters Park. Most of the land at waters edge around Annapolis is privately owned. The park on Harness Creek near the mouth of the South River gives people a chance to see some of it. The park is quite wooded. Various sculptures are scattered about and are changed annually. Summer outdoor concerts are held on Saturdays at 6PM or 5:30PM depending upon the season. A garden, an ice rink, playground and many picnic areas are other attractions. Paved trails connect to make a sort of loop around the park. Other spur trails go to the water's edge.

Starting at picnic area N, almost at the end of the park road, go clockwise on the bicycle path. An out and back path to the South River will appear on your right very soon after starting off and is a good place to go for a warm-down. A bluff overlooking the river at the end of the spur, makes a nice place to watch the sailboats go by. An area where the trail goes between a pretty row of trees is where an older park road used to exist. After crossing the park road and hitting a trail at a T, turn right until you hit another T intersection just before the pond near the garden and ice rink. A fitness course gives you a chance to do more than observe the surroundings. The trail gradually climbs as it gets nearer the park entrance. Before getting there, pass along a small wetlands area. After crossing Quiet Waters Park Dr. the trail returns, winds more and heads more downward. Some other side trails are for hikers only. The paved trail does get close to the water briefly just before completing the loop.

### Nearby and Connecting Zones

Baltimore and Annapolis Trail - Boulter's Way  
Foxhill Park, Bowie, Maryland

### **What to do Afterward**

#### Food and Drink

Jo's Deli - Jo's Deli - (410) 263-1818

Ming Dynasty Restaurant

Middleton Tavern - (410) 263-3323

#### Entertainment and Edification

Historic Annapolis -

Quiet Waters Concert Series (410 222-1777)

William Paca House & Garden - (410) 263-5553

Hammond Harwood House - (410) 263-4683

Chesapeake Children's Museum - (410) 266-0677

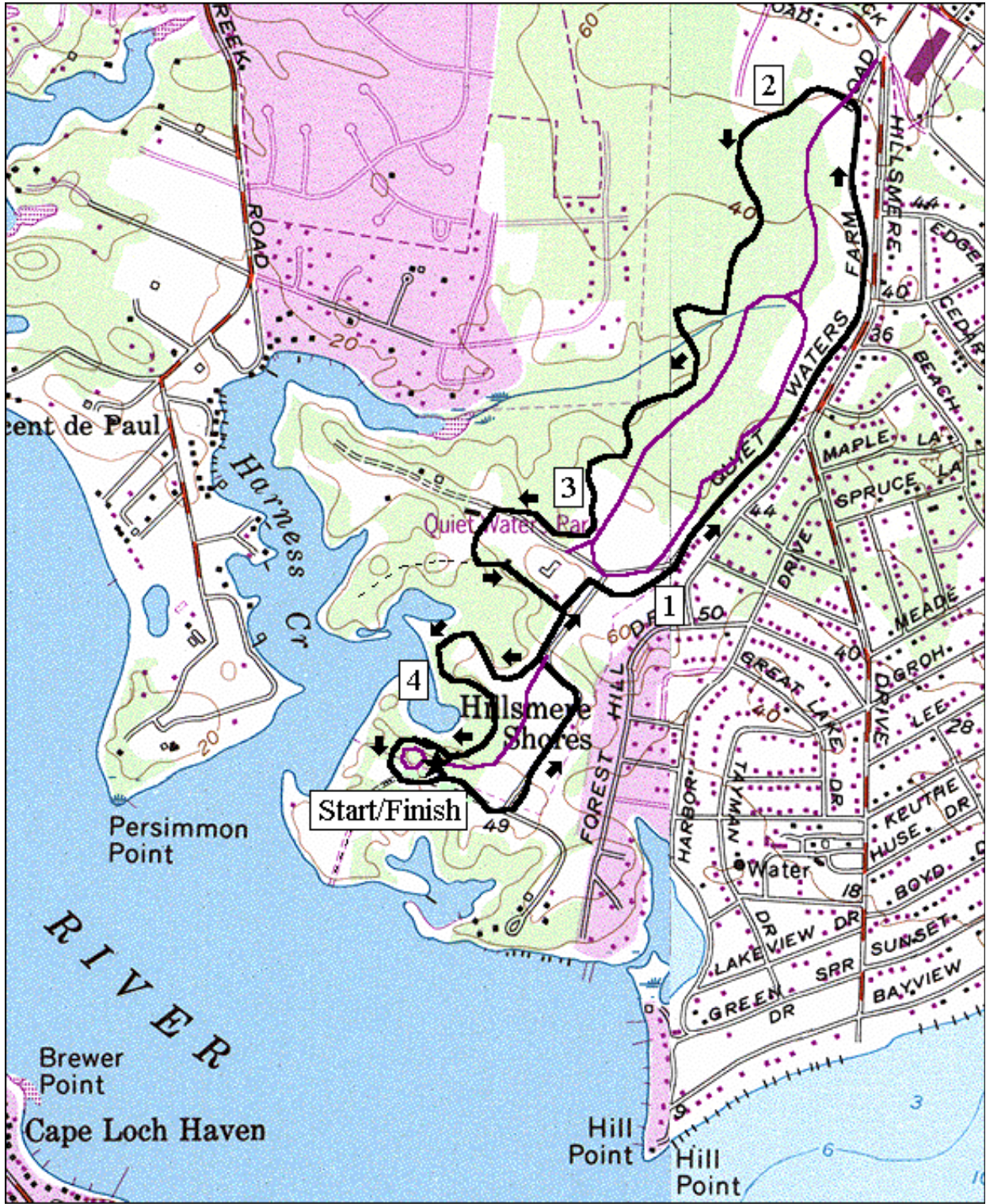
## Quiet Waters

Distance: 4.2 miles

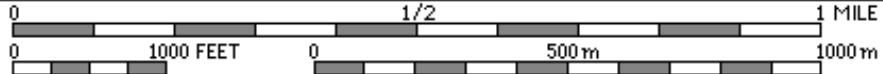
Rating: III; paved and wooded trails with some small hills and grades

- L 0.0 from the Picnic Area N parking lot, follow the small spur trail to the loop trail and turn L to go counter-clockwise on the loop
- 0.15 South River Overlook trail on R
- 0.2 restrooms on L
  
- CR 0.65 cross the park road & turn R at the T
- 0.75 Rd X; L is return route
  
- R 0.85 at T before the pond; cross the park road
- 1.8 trail X on R to park exit
- 1.85 cross Quiet Waters Park Dr (unmarked); trail start marker
- 2.3 trail X on L
- 2.8 trail X on L
- 2.85 Mile Mark 1
- 2.95 trail X on L
  
- L 3.25 to stay on bike path; Wildwood Trail is S (hikers only, composting demo)
  
- L 3.35 to stay on bike path; Harness Creek Trail is S (hikers only)
  
- BR 3.4 merge w/road; behind Visitor Center
  
- R 3.55 bike path before park road
- 3.6 trail X on L crosses park road
  
- R 3.65 at T to stay on bike path; L is to Picnic 'L' parking
- 3.85 overlook of Harness Creek
- 4.0 trail X on L to Picnic 'L' parking
  
- L 4.2 to Picnic N parking; loop complete

# Quiet Waters



MN TN  
11°



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