

Public Access

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Virginia Coastal Zone
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM



Public Access

Status and Trends			
Type of Access	Current Number	Changes since last assessment	Data Source(s)
Beach access sites	49	unknown	VACZM 2011-2015 Assessment & Strategy
Shoreline Access Sites (other than beach)	388 sites	unknown	http://www.beachapedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/VA/Beach_Access

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Status and Trends			
Type of Access	Current Number	Changes since last assessment	Data Source(s)
Public access sites per miles of shoreline	1 Public access site/8.5 miles of shoreline	unknown	http://www.beachapedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/VA/Beach_Access
Recreational boat (power or non-motorized) access sites	254 sites	unknown	VACZM 2011-2015 Assessment & Strategy

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Status and Trends			
Type of Access	Current Number	Changes since last assessment	Data Source(s)
Number of scenic vistas of overlook points	74 on coastal phase of VA Birding and Wildlife Trail	unknown	VACZM 2011-2015 Assessment & Strategy
Number of fishing access points (e.e. piers, jetties)	155	unknown	http://www.beachapedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/VA/Beach_Access

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Status and Trends			
Type of Access	Current Number	Changes since last assessment	Data Source(s)
Coastal trails/boardwalks	79	unknown	http://www.beachapedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/VA/Beach_Access
Miles of trails/boardwalks	unknown	unknown	http://www.beachapedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/VA/Beach_Access

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Type of Access	Current Number	Changes since last assessment	Data Source(s)
Number of acres parkland/ open space	80,000 acres	unknown	http://www.beachapedia.org/State_of_the_Beach/State_Reports/VA/Beach_Access
Access Sites in Chesapeake Bay Watershed in VA	312	unknown	http://www.chesapeakebay.net/indicators/indicator/public_access



Demand for Public Access

- 5,300 miles of shoreline and 2,400 square miles of tidal bays
- Less than 1 percent publicly owned
- Virginia Outdoors Survey - 50 + percent of Virginians want more water access points
- ✓ Water access is Virginia's greatest outdoor recreational need



Public Access Challenges

- Development pressures
- Privatization of shoreline
- Limited funding for acquisition or enhancement
- Potential use conflicts
- NIMBY
- Political pressures