

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Eastern Shore of Virginia

National Wildlife Refuge



Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge

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Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge

Eastern Shore of Virginia NWR straddles one of North America's most important avian migration funnels. Each fall, a colorful drama unfolds as millions of songbirds and monarch butterflies and thousands of raptors converge here to rest and feed before resuming their arduous journey south. Nestled between the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay at the tip of the Delmarva Peninsula, this 1,415-acre refuge was established in 1984 for migratory birds and endangered species management and for wildlife-dependent recreation including interpretation and education.

Fisherman Island National Wildlife Refuge

Fisherman Island NWR encompasses the southernmost barrier island along the Delmarva Peninsula. Location and diverse habitats make this island an important stopover for migratory birds and an incredible nesting area for thousands of brown pelicans and royal terns as well as American oystercatchers. Fisherman Island is closed to the public. Guided tours are offered on Saturdays from October to March and during special events.

Hours of Operation

Refuge open daily from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

Visitor Center hours:

Jan. - Feb.	Friday - Sunday	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Apr. - Nov.	daily	9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Dec. & Mar.	daily	10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Closed Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day		

The refuges are located off Route 13 in Virginia just north of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel.

