

Patuxent River



**Captain John Smith
Chesapeake National
Historic Trail**



Patuxent River

The Patuxent River flows to the east of Washington D.C. In August, 1608, John Smith and crew sailed to the Patuxent River and were allowed to stay at towns along the way. During these stopovers, the American Indians and Smith would trade, eat together, and exchange information. On his Map of Virginia, Captain John Smith recorded fifteen towns and two "chief's towns" along the Patuxent River. The chief's towns were Pawtuxent and Acquintanacsuck. Further upriver than Smith reached was another important town called Mattapaneint.