



# Bike Loaner Program

## Important Information Sheet

### Vital Info:

- Bathrooms and water fountains are in the white building, 40 yards on the right towards the parking lot.
- Concession stand, when open, is in the white building near the parking lot about 60 yards from here.
- ***This is a trash free park.*** That means you take out what you bring in. There are no wastebaskets. There are plastic bags available across the towpath for them to carry their trash home.
- Information on boat rides and tickets are available in the Tavern. When running, the boat has trips at 11:00 am, 1:30 pm, and 3:00 pm. Adult tickets cost \$8, children's cost \$6.
- The bridge across Lock 20 is unavailable while the boat is out, usually for about an hour. To get across the canal, keep walking downstream past the little white building. There is a permanent bridge available for crossing.
- The only poisonous snakes in the area are the copperhead and the rattlesnake.
- Stay out of the river! It is very dangerous and people have died. Don't be the next statistic. Even if the top of the water looks calm, it is the undercurrent that is dangerous and you will never see it coming.
- No swimming in the canal either. Boaters are permitted but must have a personal flotation device on. Most boaters will put into the river at Angler's Inn.

### Frequently needed hiking Info:

- There are 3 sections to the Billy Goat Trail with section A being the closest and the most challenging. It is the section most people are referring to when they ask about the Billy Goat Trail.
- Billy Goat A begins downstream, ¼ mile past the Overlook. A good point of reference is to tell them the trailhead is on the right just before a covered bridge over the canal. Show them a map, which most people will want to keep. Do they have water? Good hiking footwear? Warn people that there is a lot of bouldering and a 40 foot cliff to navigate either up or down depending on the direction of travel on the trail. No bikes allowed on any trail, no dogs on Billy Goat A, dogs on leash on other trails.
- There are several other trails through the hills behind the visitor's center and the River Trail which starts just upstream from the visitor's center along the towpath.
- This area is incredibly bio diverse. There are eagle's nests upstream and herons, snapping turtles, deer, and a lot of other creatures
- Canal is 184.5 miles from DC to Cumberland.
- Mile 0 is in Georgetown. Mile 184.5 is in Cumberland.
- We are at mile 14.4. Downstream, some interesting areas are:
  - Overlook is at 14.1, about 1/4 mile downstream.
  - Mary's Wall, a beautiful overlook of the river, is at 13.9, about 1/2 mile downstream.
  - Billy Goat A begins at about 13.8, about 1/2 mile downstream.
  - Widewater, another beautiful area, begins at about 13.5, about 1 mile downstream.
  - Anglers Inn is at about 12.2, about 2 miles downstream. Many kayakers put in there.
- We are at mile 14.4, Upstream, some interesting areas are:
  - Swains Lock is at 16.6, about 2 miles upstream.
  - Pennyfield Lock is at 19.6, about 5 miles upstream.
  - Violettes Lock is at 22.1, about 8 miles upstream.
  - Whites Ferry, where a ferry crosses the Potomac is at 35.5, about 20 miles upstream.