

2 Rolling Header (Enlarged)

SAFETY INFO

NOAA Weather
WX-2 Heathsville, VA
WX-1 Norfolk, VA
WX-3 Cape Hatteras, NC

USCG
Station Portsmouth, VA
VHF 16 or 09/22A
757/483-8527

3

Sea Tow
Hampton Roads, VA
VHF 16/18
757/496-1999

TowBoatU.S.
Portsmouth, VA
VHF 16/19
757/441-9656

HEADS UP!

- 0.7 North Harbor Ferry Crossing
- 2.5 N&P Belt Line RR Bridge
- 2.7 Jordan Bridge
- 3.5 Norfolk Southern RR Bridge
- 5.8 Gilmerton Bridge
- 5.8 Norfolk Southern RR Bridge
- 7.2 Dismal Swamp Canal (SB)
- 7.7 Ship Traffic (NB)
- 8.8 Dominion Blvd. Bridge

4

- 11.5 Great Bridge Lock
- 11.5 No Lunar Tides (SB)
- 12.1 Atlantic Intracoastal Bridge
- 13.8 Norfolk Southern RR Bridge
- 15.2 Centerville Turnpike Bridge
- 20.2 North Landing Bridge
- 34.0 VA-NC Border
- 41.5 Currituck Ferry Crossing
- 49.6 Coinjock Coast Guard Station

5.8 Gilmerton Bridge
VHF 13; 757/545-1512
Double bascule; vertical
Restricted year round
0830 and 1530-1730 hrs

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- 1** **5.8 Gilmerton Bridge**
VHF 13; 757/545-1512
Double bascule; vertical 11 feet.
Restricted year round; M-F except holidays, 0630-0830 and 1530-1730 hrs.
- 5.8 Norfolk Southern RR Bridge**
(Gilmerton Railroad Bridge)
Single bascule; vertical 7 feet; usually open.
- 7.1 Interstate 64 Bridge**
VHF 13; 800/305-5799
Double bascule; vertical 65 feet.
Opens with 24-hour notice. Bridge currently lists eight telephone numbers. Call 800/305-5799 M-F 0700-1730 hrs or leave message after hours to arrange opening.
- 7.2 Junction [Dismal Swamp Alternate Route to Southbound Navigation Only]**
78.8 74.6-mile alternate route.
Exit ICW N of #30. Proceed WNW into well-marked entrance channel. Rejoin ICW at G1 "AR" (Alligator River).
Caution: Dismal Swamp Canal closes occasionally due to water conditions. Call 757/201-7606 for information and updates.
- 7.7 Heads Up! Ship Traffic**
to Northbound Navigation Only
-12.0 This stretch of Hampton Roads has a high concentration of commercial ship traffic.
- 8.8 Dominion Boulevard Bridge**
(Steel Bridge)
VHF 13; 757/547-0521
Double bascule; vertical 12 feet.
Restricted year round; M-F except holidays, 0630-0830 and 1530-1800 hrs.
Restricted Memorial Day to Labor Day; M-F except holidays, 0830-1600 hrs, opens every hour on the half-hour.
- 11.5 Great Bridge Lock**
VHF 13; 757/547-3311
Restricted year round; 0600-1900 hrs. Northbound, opens on the hour timed with the Atlantic Intracoastal Bridge. Southbound, opens at quarter after and remains open until quarter of the hour.
Caution: If you are new to locking, you may wish to review *Managing the Waterway* Locks.
- 11.5 Albemarle and Chesapeake Canal**
to Southbound Navigation Only
19.7 8.2-mile land cut.
No anchorages, two marinas, five available.
- 11.5 No Lunar Tides**
to Southbound Navigation Only
185.5 174-mile non-tidal zone.
From Great Bridge Lock 057M 11.5 to Adams Creek 057M 195.5, tides and currents are primarily dictated by recent wind conditions.
- 12.0 Free Dock**
The tip on SW wall before lock and bridge. 24-hour limit. [STR 0.0]

MTW HelmClip™

VA-36

Hampton Roads to North Landing River

Managing the Waterway © 2005

1 Nav Column

Reversible for southbound or northbound travel. Landmarks spanning other entries—security zones, cuts, canals, ranges, or alternate routes—are listed at both southbound and northbound boundaries.

2 Rolling Header™

Each header "rolls" with that page's SAFETY INFO and HEADS UP!

3 Safety Info

Tune to the boldface WX station for the strongest signal. Note the next south- or northbound tower. Locate and contact the closest Coast Guard and towing stations.

4 Heads Up!™

These entries are excerpts from the NAV COLUMN and only include opening bridges, security zones, or other hazards. The bottom entry of the left-hand column is locked to that page's center statute mile. Scan the right-hand column for southbound (or up for northbound) landmarks that impact your safety or schedule. Boldface entries are detailed on that page.

5 Statute Mile Column

The statute mile column is convenient for notes or logging your time.

6 MTW HelmClip™

Fold the book on its spine, clip the outer edge to hold pages against the wind, and slide up and down to mark your current location.

7 Mark Your Progress

Check off your south- or northbound progress on the gray S or N. In an emergency, anyone on board can communicate your vessel's approximate location by noting the last check mark.

8 Restricted Bridges & Locks

Opening bridges list primary name, alternate names, land-based identifying routes, VHF, telephone contact (if available), bridge type, vertical clearance, restricted hours, and additional cautionary notes.

Passing through, you are but one of nearly 15,000 boats locking through annually.

A nice park with services and trails is on the north side of the locks. This park is popular with locals, who come to yacht-watch from the bleachers and, in their words, "imagine what the people on board do for a living."

Lightbulb icon: Make sure your rudder is amidships before engaging gear! Odds are, your last move was toward the wall—and the rudder is still in that position.

GREAT BRIDGE VISITOR CENTER

Like Pearl Harbor, sometimes a single battle is credited with turning the tide of citizen support. The Battle of Great Bridge, fought in the beginning of the American Revolution in 1775, was one such battle. Considered the "Southern Bunker Hill," the victory at Great Bridge demoralized many Southern Loyalists, converting them and other cautious residents to the Patriot cause.

At the start of the Revolution, the route through the town of Great Bridge was the only land route to Norfolk from the south. But when British troops crossing this swampy area reached the pinch-point of Great Bridge, they were defeated by Patriot troops, eventually forcing the British to evacuate Norfolk.

You can learn more about the history of this area and both Waterway canals at the new Great Bridge Battlefield and Waterways Visitor Center. In conjunction with construction of the new bridge, a new visitor center is scheduled to be open and fully operational by December 2006. The center will include a large park on both sides of the canal, walking trails, an education and visitor center, and docks for boaters.

Great Bridge Battlefield & Waterways
www.greatbridgebattlefield-waterways.com
Telephone TBA

OBOWS

The North Landing River once was a meandering mature river. The chart still shows the old bow-shaped bends in the river. These bends, called obows, are created as the outer banks are scoured by years of erosion. You can identify the age of a river by the

sharpness of the obows; rivers begin relatively straight then develop sharper switchbacks. Eventually a river can even wind back on itself, cutting off an obow and creating a new island.

The North Landing River's largest obows were bypassed by sections of straight channels, dug in the late 1800s. But the river is still beautiful, and abandoned obows with enough depth offer quiet and safe anchorage.

NORTH LANDING RIVER

Over 10,000 acres along the North Landing River are protected as part of a Natural Area Preserve. The area is mostly wetlands, including the only "pocosin" (elevated peat bog) area in Virginia. *Pocosin* is a Native American



Osprey on North Landing River

word for "swamp-on-a-hill."

Marshes along this river are flooded with wind-driven rather than lunar tides. High tide occurs when a south wind pushes water up from Currituck Sound. A north wind sucks water back down into Currituck Sound, creating a low tide. These wind tides can change the water level along the North Landing River by as much as two feet.

The tributaries of this wild area are accessible by designated canoe trails, also open to motorized dinghies. If you stay at Pungo Ferry Marina (57M 28.4) or one of the nearby anchorages, Altons Creek canoe trail picks up just northwest of Pungo Ferry Bridge. The self-guided tour leads 2.5 miles up Altons Creek to the preserve's floating dock. Boaters are welcome to leave dinghies at this dock and walk the wide footpath and boardwalk to the main park entrance (0.4 miles). Self-guided tour brochures are available at the main park entrance.

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9 Cautions & Notes

Cautions such as security zones, reversing buoyage, and strong currents are noted. Additionally, services are listed for all canals and cuts.

10 South- or Northbound Only

Landmarks relevant in only one direction are noted with Southbound Navigation Only or Northbound Navigation Only.

11 Tidal Ranges

Use the local spring tidal range—noted as [STR] with an optional (rs) at government tide stations—to adjust your lines at fixed docks, set your anchoring scope, or as a rough proxy for current.

12 Interpretive Vignettes

266 crisp, focused stories describe the sights and tales of the ICW.

13 Cruising Tips

Over 75 tips highlight ideas to make your trip easier and safer.

14 Photos & Illustrations

200 photos and illustrations give you a visual preview of the Waterway.

15 Featured Attractions

Websites and telephone numbers for local festivals, museums, parks, lighthouses, visitor centers, tourism offices, and ferry schedules.



Avoid missing important landmarks by highlighting the Southbound Navigation Only or Northbound Navigation Only entries before you leave. We use two different colored highlighters.



Don't wait! Flip through the guide and skim the tips. You may choose to implement some tips ahead of time, or wait until you reach a geography for its area-relevant tip.

NAVIGATION and APPRECIATION

The NAV COLUMN lists mile-by-mile piloting information. It details marinas, anchorages, cuts & canals, bridges, junctions, ranges, inlets, security zones, and alternate routes. Following the ICW convention, all mileage is in statute miles. We include full-service marinas, repair yards, free docks, visitor centers, inns, dry stores, yacht clubs, and community marinas. Distance off the ICW is noted within parentheses.

The ROLLING HEADER combines customized SAFETY INFO and a HEADS UP! to help you manage upcoming delays or safety concerns. The header "rolls," highlighting that page's nearest access services or information.

INTERPRETIVE VIGNETTES follow the miles, telling the stories behind the ICW. They highlight regional flora & fauna, history & folklore, and pop culture & local events.