



National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior

Chesapeake and Ohio Canal
National Historical Park

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C&O Canal National Historical Park News Release

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For Immediate Release

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VIP Speaker Series: Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail and Weather Preparedness on the Towpath

Potomac, MD- The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park (C&O Canal) will be hosting its 6th speaker for the year as part of its ongoing Centennial VIP Speaker Series on Saturday, June 25th at 2 PM. Join Park Ranger Kate Marks with the NPS Chesapeake Bay Office for an overview of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail. Ranger Marks will discuss the history of the trail, as well as trail-related programs across partner sites throughout the Chesapeake watershed.

Space is limited to the first 25 guests. If you would like to attend this event, you must RSVP to Linzy French with your name and how many will be in your party. The event will be held on the 1st floor of the Great Falls Tavern. The program is free, but there is an entrance fee to the park of \$10.00 per single vehicle. The park entrance to Great Falls Tavern is located at the intersection of Falls Rd. and MacArthur Blvd. in Potomac, Maryland. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Linzy at 301-714-2201 or linzy_french@nps.gov

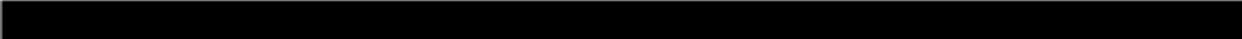
In addition, the C&O Canal will be hosting its 7th VIP speaker on the same day, Saturday, June 25th in Cumberland, MD at 10:30 AM. Speaker Tim Thomas will be offering a program about weather preparedness on the towpath. VIP Thomas, a 15 year member of the Bike Patrol, will cover the difference between watches and warnings, safety rules for thunderstorms, lightning, and flash flooding. Thomas has been the official weather observer for the National Weather Service in Cumberland for nearly 51 years, worked 36 years at the Allegany County 911 Center, and has written the "Weatherwise" article for the Cumberland Times News since 1985.

Space is limited to the first 25 guests. If you would like to attend this event, you must RSVP to Dorothy McQuaid with your name and how many will be in your party. This event is free to all visitors. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Dorothy at 301-745-5810 or dorothy_mcquaid@nps.gov.

Parking for this event can be found at the Howard Street parking lot under the I-68 overpass.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



This is special programming commemorating the Centennial of the National Park Service. Stay tuned to the Park's website, www.nps.gov/choh and the Centennial website, findyourpark.com, for more events celebrating 100 years of the National Park Service. Follow us on Facebook at [chesapeakeandohiocanal](https://www.facebook.com/chesapeakeandohiocanal) and on Twitter [@COcanalNPS](https://twitter.com/COcanalNPS).

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ABOUT THE C&O Canal: The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park preserves and interprets the historical, natural and recreational resources of the C&O Canal. Over 5,000,000 visitors a year enjoy the opportunities for recreation and understanding that the Park has to offer. For more information, visit the Park's website at www.nps.gov/choh.