

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge

Welcome to Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge established in 1933 as a refuge for migratory birds, primarily ducks and geese. The refuge includes more than 24,000 acres. Blackwater is one of the chief wintering areas for Canada geese using the Atlantic flyway. Two endangered or threatened species also call Blackwater home: the bald eagle and the Delmarva fox squirrel.

To protect this haven we ask that you follow these regulations:

Visitor activities:

- A daily permit is required for all visitors to the wildlife drive unless they possess an annual pass or lifetime passport.
- The wildlife drive and associated facilities are open daily dawn to dusk.
- Walking and biking along the wildlife drive is permitted. For safety's sake, visitors must remain on the paved road.
- Please obey all signs and do not feed or harass the wildlife.
- Pets are prohibited on all trails, but are allowed inside vehicles on the wildlife drive.
- Camping is not permitted on the refuge.

Boating, fishing:

- Sport fishing, crabbing and boating on Blackwater are permitted within the refuge boundaries from April 1 - Sept. 30, dawn until dusk. The refuge is closed to boating and canoeing at all other times of the year to prevent impacting refuge wildlife.

- Fishing and crabbing are restricted to boats and the Key Wallace roadway across the Little Blackwater River. No fishing or crabbing is permitted along the refuge shoreline or the wildlife drive.

- Air boat use is not permitted.
- Boat launching is not permitted from the refuge.

Safety:

- April through October, poison ivy is common along the trails. Remember the saying "leaves of three, let it be."
- Biting insects and ticks are present from mid-April through late September. Protective clothing and insect repellent are recommended. You should also check yourself carefully for ticks.

For more information please contact or stop by the visitor center. The visitor center is open 8 am to 4 pm, Monday - Friday; 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday - Sunday; closed Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Blackwater is one of more than 540 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The National Wildlife Refuge System is a network of land and waters managed specifically for the protection of wildlife and wildlife habitat and represents the most comprehensive wildlife management program in the world. Units of the system stretch across the United States from northern Alaska to the Florida Keys and includes small islands in the Caribbean and South Pacific. The

character of the refuges is as diverse as the nation itself.

The Service also manages national fish hatcheries and provides federal leadership in habitat protection, fish and wildlife research, technical assistance and the conservation and protection of migratory birds, certain marine mammals and threatened and endangered species.

For more information contact:

Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge
2145 Key Wallace Drive
Cambridge, MD 21613
410/228 2677
<http://blackwater.fws.gov/>

Federal Relay Service
for the deaf and hard-of-hearing
1 800/877 8339

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov>
1 800/344 WILD

October 2005



Wildlife Drive

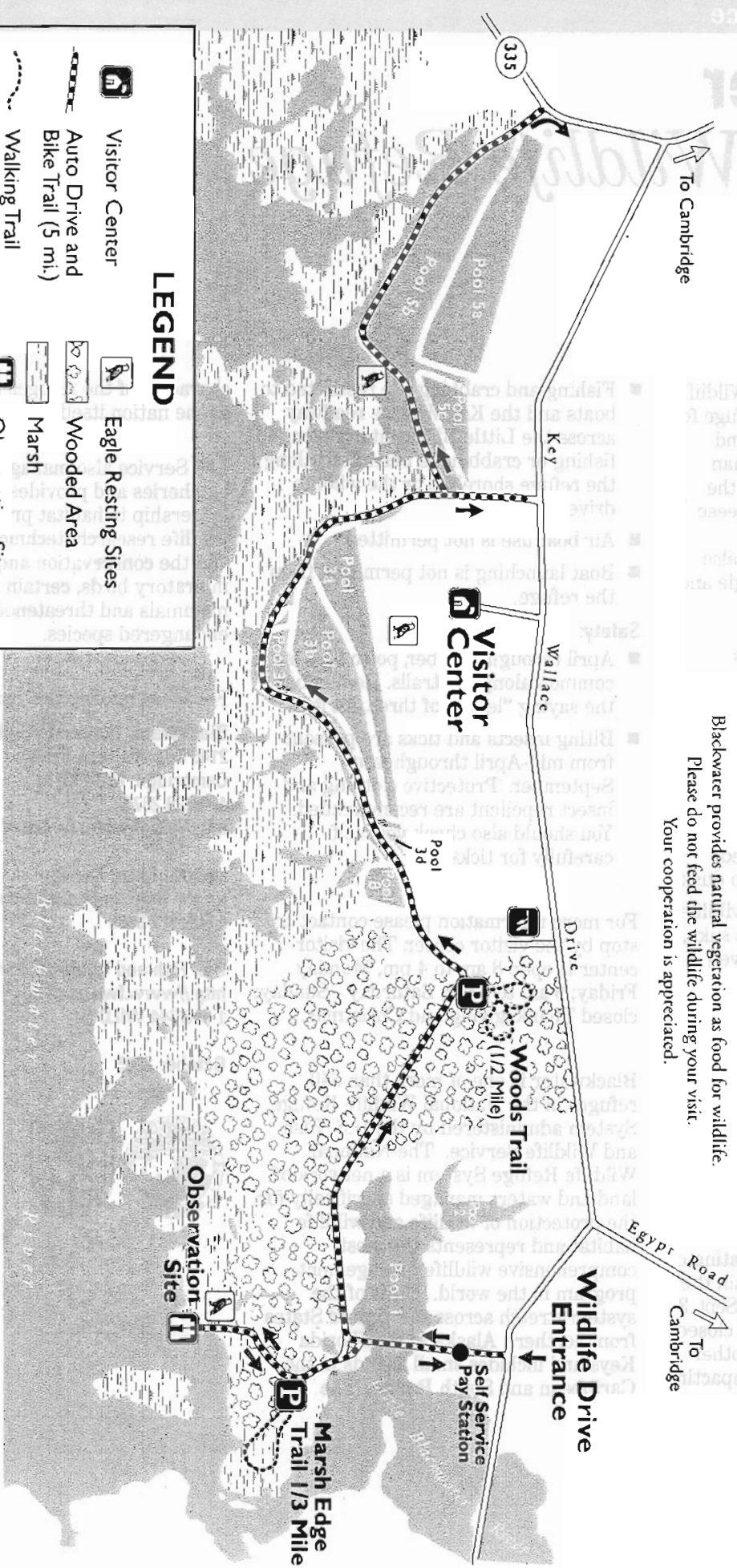
Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge

(Open Dawn to Dusk)

To Cambridge

To Cambridge

Blackwater provides natural vegetation as food for wildlife.
 Please do not feed the wildlife during your visit.
 Your cooperation is appreciated.



LEGEND

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| | Visitor Center | | Eagle Resting Sites |
| | Auto Drive and Bike Trail (5 mi.) | | Wooded Area |
| | Walking Trail | | Marsh |
| | Parking Area | | Observation Site |
| | | | Refuge Headquarters |