

# Parks, Recreation and Tourism Chesapeake VIRGINIA

## REGIONAL MAJOR EVENTS – 2018

Phone: 757-382-6411 | Email: [ContactPRT@cityofchesapeake.net](mailto:ContactPRT@cityofchesapeake.net) |  
[www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents)

### Great American Cleanup

The BIGGEST cleanup campaign of the year! Help *Keep Chesapeake Beautiful* by involving your group in a cleanup or beautification project. Please register two weeks prior to your selected date. Free trash bags and supplies are provided for your cleanup. Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council (CEIC) and Keep America Beautiful, Inc. (KAB) sponsor this annual event. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.cityofchesapeake.net/CEIC](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/CEIC)

*Please register at least two-weeks before your cleanup date.*

**Locations are throughout the City**

**March 1-June 2**

### Arbor Day Celebration

Arbor Day is celebrated by planting trees throughout the city during the year. A ceremony and celebration will be held at Western Branch Park to provide great information and thank volunteers and sponsors. The Master Gardeners and the Virginia Tech Cooperative Extension give away free tree seedlings. This event is sponsored by Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism and supported by the Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council, Chesapeake Master Gardeners, and Virginia Department of Forestry. All activities are free. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at [www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**12 p.m. – 3 p.m. (1 p.m. Opening Ceremony)**

**Western Branch Park**

**April 27**

**4437 Portsmouth Boulevard, 23321**

### Dismal Swamp Stomp Running Festival — Half-Marathon, 5K, and Kids Cub Run

Chesapeake invites you on a spectacular 13.1 mile journey through lush, mysterious landscapes and rich history. Alongside and parallel to the trail is the historic Dismal Swamp Canal, part of the famed Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, which offers runners forested wetlands and a peaceful paved pathway through the wilderness. Join the foot stompin' crowd for the race; enjoy the legendary scenery and entertainment that will be anything but dismal. Each registered participant receives a finisher's medal when they cross the finish line. The Dismal Swamp Stomp Running Festival brings outdoor sports to a new level. Registration is available now through April 13. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Dismal Swamp Canal Trail**

**April 14**

**1200 Dismal Swamp Canal Trail, 23323**

### **Hampton Roads Corporate Challenge**

Join us for the 2018 Hampton Roads Corporate Challenge as over 50 companies compete in a variety of sporting events for bragging rights and bling! Sports include: 5K run, basketball, bowling, cornhole, golf, kickball, ropes course, tug of war and volleyball. Gather your coworkers and enjoy this fun event while focusing on health/wellness, team building, improving office morale and networking in a relaxed atmosphere. Events held throughout Hampton Roads will be April 11-21. Events in Chesapeake will be April 24. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Chesapeake City Park  
900 City Park Drive, 23320**

**April 24**

### **Paddle for the Border**

Paddle on the Dismal Swamp Canal, adjacent to the Great Dismal Swamp — “a unique and mysterious place” — charted by George Washington’s survey company in 1763. Paddlers push off into the Dismal Swamp Canal and navigate their own canoes, kayaks or stand-up paddle-boards from South Mills, NC, to Chesapeake, joining other paddlers for a picnic lunch. Registration begins January 1. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.cityofchesapeake.net/PADDLE](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PADDLE)

**Dismal Swamp Canal  
Camden County, NC to Chesapeake, VA**

**May 5**

### **Bike Fest**

Family, friends, and neighbors are cordially invited to come celebrate Bike Month with the Chesapeake Bicycle Trails Committee and Safe Routes to School Chesapeake. Bring your bike and enjoy 12+ miles of paved trails and great family friendly bike activities including a bike rodeo, bike maintenance demos, and visit with a bike mechanic. Parking & restrooms available. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at [www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Dismal Swamp Canal Trail – North Trail Head  
1200 Dismal Swamp Canal Trail, Chesapeake, VA 23323**

**May 6**

### **Chesapeake Jubilee**

The Chesapeake Jubilee offers one of the largest varieties of carnival rides and games east of the Mississippi! The Jubilee will again host the Chesapeake Kiwanis Club Shrimp Feast and the BBQ Cook-off Competition, sanctioned by the world famous Kansas City Barbeque Society. As always, don't miss our annual Fireworks Extravaganza produced by the world famous Zambelli Fireworks! In addition to great music and food, Amusements of America will be on site with thrilling rides and games. Bring the kids out for what is sure to be a memorable occasion. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at [www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Chesapeake City Park  
900 City Park Drive, 23320**

**May 17-20**

### **30th Annual Clean the Bay Day**

Individuals, groups, and organizations help to cleanup Chesapeake's waterways from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Boaters and businesses along the waterway are especially needed to help with the cleanup. Sponsored by Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism, Chesapeake Environmental Improvement Council and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. The registration deadline is May 31. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at [www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Locations are throughout the City**

**June 2**

### **KayaXpedition**

The annual KayaXpedition is a kayaking, canoeing and stand-up paddle-boarding festival in Chesapeake. There's something for everyone this year, including beginner paddlers and families that want to have an adventure together. Reservations required for most events. For more information please call 757-382-6411 or visit [www.CityofChesapeake.net/KayaXpedition](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/KayaXpedition)

**Oak Grove Park, 409 Byron Street 23320**

**June 9**

### **"Movie & More" Outdoor Movie Series**

Join us for some FREE family fun! These events begin at 6 p.m. (October event begins at 5 p.m.) with free parking! Enjoy a dance party, inflatables, face painting and other fun activities prior to the movie! Food vendors will be on-site. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at [www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents)

- **June 16 @ Chesapeake City Park - Captain Underpants**
- **July 14 @ Western Branch Park - Despicable Me 3**
- **August 18 @ Elizabeth River Park - Cars 3**
- **September 16 @ Courtyard Square Park - The Smurfs: The Lost Village**
- **October 13 @ Deep Creek Park – Coco (5 p.m. start)**

### **Celebrate Freedom**

Honor our nation's birthday with a concert from the U. S. Fleet Forces Band, children's activities, family entertainment, and a fireworks finale! FREE admission. \$5 on-site Parking Fee. Bring lawn chairs and/or blankets (no pop-up tents permitted). Food vendors will be on-site. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

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**Chesapeake City Park**

**900 City Park Drive, 23320**

**July 3**

### **4th of July Parade and Picnic in the Park**

Parade, entertainment, food, games and paddleboat rides will be held Wednesday, July 4 Lakeside Park. The parade steps off at 10 a.m. and the picnic is 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Event is FREE to the public. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Lakeside Park**

**1441 Bainbridge Blvd, 23324**

**July 4**

### **Chesapeake Criterium (Bicycle Race)**

Velo Racing Virginia, Inc. and Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism present a top level bike race for families to experience! Pre-register on-line at [www.Bikereg.com](http://www.Bikereg.com) or on-site; there will be field limits. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Courtyard Square Park**  
**306 Cedar Road, 23322**

**August 4**

### **Symphony Under the Stars**

Enjoy a FREE Virginia Symphony Orchestra concert at the Chesapeake City Park's Bagley Stage. Chesapeake Arts Alive! will host its annual wine tasting during the event. Bring lawn chairs and/or blankets (no pop-up tents permitted). Food vendors will be on-site. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

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**Chesapeake City Park**  
**900 City Park Drive, 23320**

**September 2**

### **Northwest River Park Family Fun Day**

Enjoy a family day at one of Chesapeake's hidden gems for outdoor recreation. Activities include FREE paddle boat rentals, bike rentals, canoe rentals, putt-putt, wagon rides, fishing (license required), 7 miles of hiking trails, amusements, and other family activities. Food vendors will be on-site. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us on line at

[www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Northwest River Park**  
**1733 Indian Creek Road, 23322**

**September 29**

### **Bark in the Park - Fun Fest**

Bring your canine to City Park for a dog-gone good time. Fun Fest will be held Sunday from 12pm to 5pm and feature pet related vendors, animal rescues, games, contests, demonstrations, great food and more! This event is a great resource for pet owners and an awesome time for the entire family. Bark in the Park is presented by Chesapeake Parks, Recreation and Tourism and Chesapeake Humane Society. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

[www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents)

**Chesapeake City Park**  
**900 City Park Drive, 23320**

**October 21**

### **Ghost Train at Northwest River Park**

Ride the terrifying train and see the ghouls and goblins of the haunted woods of Northwest River Park. Train times are 7pm-9:30pm on Thursdays, 7pm-10:30pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Tickets go on sale September 10 at all community centers, Northwest River Park and online at [www.cityofchesapeake.net/NWRP](http://www.cityofchesapeake.net/NWRP) . Reservations are required; space is limited.

For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at [www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents](http://www.CityofChesapeake.net/PRTevents).

**Northwest River Park**  
**1733 Indian Creek Road, 23322**

**October 18-20 & 25-27**

### **Dismal Swamp Art Festival**

This festival offers a magical experience on the Canal Trail of the National Wildlife Refuge. Fine artists come from near and far to sell and share their works, while interacting with visitors. The 2 days of journey include varieties of live music to ease the spirit, while your taste buds enjoy local famous Brunswick stew and other scrumptious fall fare. Fine wine, Craft Brews, and Hot Apple Cider will keep everyone hydrated all weekend long. Harvest themed activities and artistic expression await children of all ages. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

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**Dismal Swamp Canal Trail**

**October 27 & 28**

**1200 Dismal Swamp Canal Trail, Chesapeake, VA 23323**

**Chesapeake Holiday Craft Show**

Get your holiday shopping started early. Talented artisans display and sell their crafts at this traditional opening of the holiday shopping season in Chesapeake. Time: Saturday 10am - 5pm and Sunday 11am-4pm. Parents don't forget your camera for pictures with Santa in our amazing children's area!

Concessions will be available for purchase. Admission is FREE. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

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**Chesapeake Conference Center**

**November 17 & 18**

**700 Conference Center Drive, 23320**

**Battle of Great Bridge**

This two-day event is held at Battlefield Park South which is located just south of the Great Bridge "bridge". It is the original site of the Battle of Great Bridge fought December 9, 1775. Step back in time with us and experience re-enactments of the Battle of Great Bridge. The event also highlights Revolutionary War encampments, demonstrations, character portrayals, camp life, historical displays and lectures, skilled artisans demonstrating early American trades and children's crafts and activities.

Times: Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit us online at

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**Battlefield Park South**

**December 1 & 2**

**120 Reservation Road, 23322**

**Holiday Brass Concert with the Virginia Symphony Orchestra**

The bold sounds of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra brass section will help you ring in the holidays in a bright new way! With a variety of styles from classical to contemporary, you'll delight in the sounds of the season. Event is FREE to the public. Concessions available for purchase. For more information, call 757-382-6411 or visit our website at

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**Chesapeake Conference Center**

**December 12**

**700 Conference Center Drive, 23322**