












Cockrell Creek Water Trail

From Shell Landing, the distance is 1.81 miles to the Crazy Crab Restaurant, 1.88 miles to Cockrell's Creek Seafood Deli, and 2.49 miles to the Reedville Fisherman's Museum.

Legend

-  Cockrell Creek Water Trail
-  Shell Boat Landing
-  Dangerous Wreck - Depth Unknown
-  Navigation Markers

Points of Interest

-  Crazy Crab Restaurant
-  Cockrell's Creek Seafood
-  Tommy's Restaurant
-  ChitterChats Ice Cream Parlor
-  The Gables Bed and Breakfast
-  Omega Protein Plant
-  Reedville Fisherman's Museum

0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles








This project was funded by the Northern Neck Planning District Commission and the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program at the Department of Environmental Quality through Grant #NA14NOS4190141 of the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended.








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Legend

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-  Cockerell Creek Water Trail
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Shell Landing, the starting point for this paddling trail, is the crown jewel of boat ramps in Northumberland County. With plenty of parking and two ramps, there is hardly ever a wait to launch or retrieve your watercraft.



Heading out into Cockrell's Creek from the landing, on the starboard side, you will see the Omega Protein fish processing plant. You will likely see large fishing vessels tied up at Omega Protein. In the past, fishing for menhaden helped build the town of Reedville with several companies engaged in menhaden fishing. Haynie Products, Reedville Oil and Guano, Standard Products Company and Zapata-Haynie were all involved in menhaden fishing and processing. In Reedville in the late 1800s, Main Street was called "Millionaires Row" due the profits made from menhaden fishing. Menhaden were rendered providing fish oil, fishmeal and fertilizer. Today while meal and fertilizer are still produced, the fish oil, rich in omega-3s, is the most valuable product derived from menhaden.

Further upstream from Omega Protein, there is a special smokestack, from the old Morris-Fisher Company which provided steam for processing menhaden. From the website <http://savethestack.blogspot.com>, the smokestack "served as a navigational landmark for working watermen and boaters but also as a welcoming beacon to the historic town of Reedville and surrounding areas."

The smokestack had deteriorated, had been hit by lightning numerous times, and was in a general state of disrepair. The Reedville community embraced the cause to "Save the Stack" and held numerous fundraising efforts including concerts and raffles, and raised \$300,000 to re-furbish the smokestack. The hope is that the stack will last another 100 years to show boaters the way to Reedville.



The Morris-Fisher smokestack landmark. On Reedville's western corner is the Crazy Crab Restaurant. Their food is delicious, and they have deck dining so you can enjoy the bay breeze. They are usually open for lunch on the weekend, but check beforehand at <http://www.reedvillemarina.com/> for their hours of operation and other information. After your meal, head up Main Street a few doors to ChitterChats Ice Cream for a frozen dessert. Find out more about them at: <http://www.chitterchatsicecream.com/> Further upstream on the western edge of Reedville is the Reedville Fishermen's Museum, where the historic wooden workboats, the Elva C and the Claud W. Somers, are docked at the museum. Here you can learn all about the history of fishing in Reedville. Learn more at: <http://www.rfmuseum.org/> Making your way back the water trail, off to the east of Historic Reedville is a local favorite, Cockrell's Creek Seafood and Deli.



Cockrell's Creek Seafood and Deli is located across Cockrell Creek the Historic District of Reedville. Famous for their crabcakes, Cockrell's Creek Seafood and Deli also has non-seafood offerings as well. Learn more at: <http://www.smithpointseafood.com/> There is a lot of history in the area surrounding Reedville, so go out and explore!

Directions to Shell Landing follow: In the village of Burgess (at the intersection of Rt. 200 and US 360) head east on US 360 towards Reedville. The speed limit on the road will slow to 35 mph as you near Reedville, look for Rt. 657 Fleeton Road on the left. Take 657 and follow until you reach Rt. 692 Shell Landing Road. Take a right on Shell Landing Road.

