

Our Mission

The Friends of Belle Isle State Park is a citizen organization that supports the recreational and educational opportunities at Belle Isle State Park in Lancaster County, Virginia.

We are dedicated to the conservation and preservation the park's native plants and animals and historical and cultural resources.

What we do

The Friends of Belle Isle State Park is a Citizen Support Organization and a nonprofit 501(c)(3) group organized in January 2001.

With strong support from the surrounding community, we sponsor annually: the Music by the River summer concert series, Easter egg hunt, and Mother's Day Tea Party.

In addition, we:

- Support construction and maintenance projects at the park both financially and physically.
- Support other volunteer groups who come to work at the park including Alternative Spring Break, Youth Conservation Corps, and the Northern Neck Audubon Society.
- Assist the Northern Neck Chapter of the Virginia Native Plant Society in planting and maintaining native plant gardens throughout the park.
- Provide assistance in expanding the educational opportunities at the park.
- Act as an advocacy organization for Belle Isle.
- And have a lot of fun doing all these things!

Come and join us! We welcome your help.



In August 2015, the Friends of Belle Isle dedicated a memorial bench in memory of several devoted and founding members:

John Pierce,
Lynn Larson,
Tony Callaghan
and
Weston Conley

For more information on
Belle Isle State Park,
please visit
www.virginiastateparks.gov
or call the park at (804) 462-5030.



Friends of Belle Isle State Park



A Citizen Support
Organization

Join the Friends now!

Name

Address

City, State & Zip

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email

Annual Dues (please circle one):
\$15 (Family) or \$25 (Business)

As a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, the Friends of Belle Isle State Park relies on your tax-deductible donations. If you would like to include an additional donation, please indicate the amount here:

\$ _____

Mail to:
Friends of Belle Isle State Park
P.O. Box 633
Lancaster, VA 22503

To pay online, visit
www.virginiaparks.org/friends-bi

Belle Isle State Park

A Brief History



Belle Isle State Park consists of 892 acres, with seven miles of shoreline on the Rappahannock River, Deep Creek and Mulberry Creek.

Visitors can explore a wide variety of tidal wetlands interspersed with agricultural fields and upland forests. The area was once a settlement for Virginia Indians and then later was established as a plantation. Much of the park continues to be farmed today.

After the Civil War, the land was sold off in pieces and Belle Isle seemed destined to become a waterfront subdivision until it was purchased by the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1993.

The park welcomes over 48,000 visitors annually and has been developed to offer hiking, biking, picnicking, watercraft rentals and overnight accommodations in the campground and the historic Bel Air area.

In July 2015, the park, managed by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, acquired a 152 acre parcel of farmland, upland forest and marsh, which includes a 1760 house and associated outbuildings. With this purchase, the historic lands of the Belle Isle Plantation are now reunited and protected for future generations.

Visit a meeting

Important decisions are made at our monthly meetings. Join us to stay current on issues. Meetings take place the first Monday of each month February through October at 5 p.m. in the park Visitor Center Education Room.

Benefits

- Friends of Belle Isle State Park members receive benefits just for joining!
- Friends of Belle Isle Bumper Sticker
 - Free Parking at all Friends events, including the Music by the River concert series
- As an active park volunteer you may also be eligible to earn benefits through Virginia State Parks. Please contact the park volunteer coordinator at (804) 462-5030 for more information.

Learn more

Please visit our website for up-to-date information on activities and projects, photos, news and more.

www.virginiaparks.org/friends-bi

NEW! You can now pay yearly dues online. Visit our website to find out more.