Mission
The Authority recognizes that shorelines are high priority natural areas and that it is critical to set aside access sites for all types of recreational activities important to our economy and to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Members

**Essex County**
Mr. David Whitlow

**Gloucester County**
Hon. Charles R. Allen

**King and Queen County**
Hon. Pete McDuff

**King William County**
Mr. Frank Pleva *(Chairman)*

**Mathews County**
Mr. Steve Whiteway

**Town of Tappahannock**
Mr. G. Gayle Belfield

**Town of Urbanna**
Hon. Janet S. Smith

**Town of West Point**
Mr. Trenton Funkhouser

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**566 Dragon Run Acres Now Owned By The Authority**

In September 2007, a federal grant from the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program (CELCP), distributed through the Virginia Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program, permitted the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority (MPCBPAA or PAA) to acquire and open to public access 566 acres in the Dragon Run watershed, specifically the Dragon Bridge, Jackson, Clay and Haworth Tracts. Between late 2007 and the spring of 2008, the Authority has acquired all 566 acres of land and expended 100% of the Federal grant award. All four holdings will be linked with the Browne Tract (the PAA’s first multi-use public access site) in the upper portion of Dragon Run and with currently-protected neighboring forest and swamp lands in an effort to expand the zone of conservation within the Dragon Run watershed. During the spring and summer of 2008, PAA staff will utilize input from members of the public, local government, and NGO’s in the region to develop a stakeholder-driven, long-term stewardship plan for the Hayworth Tract. The plan will incorporate passive and low-impact outdoor activities and support traditional uses, such as walking, fishing, picnicking, paddling, bicycling, hunting, forest and habitat management.

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**VDOT Landing and Road Ending Transfers**

Pursuant to Virginia State Code 15.2-6600 through 15.2-6625, the MPCBPAA has been charged with the duty of identifying land owned by the Commonwealth or private holdings that can be secured for use by the general public as public access sites. Currently, the MPCBPAA is working with VDOT to acquire the first of numerous road endings. Bill Hogg’s Landing (pictured to the right), at the end of Kings Creek Road in Gloucester has been selected as the first landing for transfer. The PAA looks to finalize the transfer later this year and begin development of a road-ending management plan for the parcel.
**Coastal Access Survey 2008**

Virginia Sea Grant and the Public Access Authority are working to better understand public access needs and larger waterfront conflicts that may be occurring within the lower Chesapeake Bay region. The “Coastal Access Survey” is designed to gather this information. We plan to use survey responses to broadly outline the scope of current access challenges and trends, to inform and set future public policy, and to qualify for future grant funding opportunities: survey url [Http://www.wateraccessus.com/survey.html](http://www.wateraccessus.com/survey.html)

**Working Waterfront and Public Access—Innovative Solutions**

The Public Access Authority in the fall of 2008 will begin a fund raising effort to focus financial resources towards the preservation of working waterfront infrastructure. The Authority will research public—private financing to establish a seafood cooperative. Traditional seafood facilities are under significant development pressure and should be preserved.

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### Public Access Authority Project Revenues FY 2004—2008

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<th>Project</th>
<th>Federal/State</th>
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<th>Local</th>
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**TOTAL** $1,650,772  $23,964  $0  $1,287,377

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^ Overmatched project funds

^ Includes CZMA-Coastal TA

** TNC match for CELCP acquisitions

** TOTAL FUNDS RECEIVED: $2,962,113 **

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*Coastal Experience* 2008

If you care about the preservation of working waterfront infrastructure and public access to the waterways of Virginia’s Middle Peninsula, please contribute to the Middle Peninsula Chesapeake Bay Public Access Authority

The Authority recognizes that shorelines are high priority natural areas and that it is critical to set aside access sites for all types of recreational and commercial activities important to our economy and to the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Your gift will support public access improvements, infrastructure acquisition and maintenance of existing public access facilities.

To learn more about the work of the Authority, please call 804-718-2011

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