

**Department of Conservation and Recreation
Division of Planning and Recreation Resources
Belle Isle State Park Master Plan Public Meeting
Thursday, September 29, 2016 6:00 p.m.
Belle Isle State Park Visitors Center
Belle Isle State Park
Lancaster, Virginia**

TIME AND PLACE

The Public Meeting to consider the Master Plan for Belle Isle State Park took place at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 29, 2016, at the Belle Isle State Park Visitor Center at Belle Isle State Park in Lancaster, Virginia.

DCR STAFF PRESENT

Bill Conkle, Janit Allen, Ann Zahn, Marci Holland, Katie Sheppard, Alysia Minard, and Tim Shrader.

PUBLIC PRESENT

Eight members of the public attended the meeting, including a reporter from the Rappahannock Record.

MEETING SUMMARY

The meeting introduced the history of Virginia State Parks, provided an overview of the master planning process, provided an orientation to Belle Isle State Park, reviewed the proposed update to the park's master plan and allowed for public comment. Proposed developments for the park include a 30-site campground, 12 cabins, renovation of the Belle Isle Plantation house, fishing pier, and a meeting facility for 150-200 people. Public comments included an urgency for shoreline stabilization, a desire for dredging a large area of Deep Creek, support for a water feature/spray ground, request that cabins have a water view, expressed support for maintaining the agricultural setting of the park and support visitor center exhibits. The draft master plan will next be presented to the Board of Conservation and Recreation for recommended approval.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Meeting Agenda
2. Draft phased development plan

Belle Isle State Park Master Plan Update

Public Input Meeting

Thursday, September 29, 2016
6:00 P.M.

Visitor Center
1632 Belle Isle Road
Lancaster, Virginia

AGENDA

Welcome

Introduction to Virginia State Parks

Overview of the State Park Master Planning Process

Orientation to Belle Isle State Park

Review of Proposed master plan revisions for Belle Isle State Park

Public Comment Period

Next Steps in the Process

Adjourn

THANK YOU!

Written and emailed comments are also accepted for the Belle Isle State Park Master Plan until **October 29, 2016**.

Please send comments to:
Bill Conkle, Park Planner
Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
600 East Main Street, 24th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
Bill.conkle@dcr.virginia.gov
804-786-5492

Belle Isle State Park Master Plan
2016 Update
Draft Phased Development Plan

Proposed developments for the Park are presented in priority order. Completion of all of the projects in this list will represent total build-out (completion of the master plan), and covers a 20-year timeframe. The phasing costs are based on 2016 estimates. Shoreline stabilization and the dredging of Deep Creek will be an ongoing issue, and long term planning and funding will be needed to protect the recreational resources of Belle Isle State Park.

Phase I

- Renovate Belle Isle Plantation House, out buildings and historic landscape
- Upgrade fuel station in Maintenance Area
- Shoreline stabilization at Visitor Center, Day-use, Watch House and Bel Air Guest House sites
- Dredge Deep Creek to Boat Ramp
- Develop interpretive exhibits for the visitor center
- Construct a 30-site campground, including 4 yurts/camping cabins with bathhouse
- Provide additional parking for picnic area (60 spaces)
- Construct screened-in shelter at YCC Bunkhouse with water and electric
- Construct and develop a trail with a bridge across the Mulberry Creek inlet
- Construct staff residences (2)
- Demolish garage at Belle Isle Plantation House site

Phase II

- Construct a fishing pier (200 foot) in the day-use area
- Cabins (12) with boat tie-ups
- Construct a day-use boat tie-up adjacent to the large boat ramp
- Staff residence
- Renovate (3) existing staff residences for overnight rentals
- Meeting facility with seating for 150-200, kitchen, conference room, comfort station

Phase III

- Restore historic barn for interpretive programs
- Construct a comfort station and canoe storage at the car-top launch
- Upgrade group camp with water, electric, bathhouse, shelter, gravel road and parking (20 spaces)
- Construct a water feature/spray ground in the day-use area