



Unquestionably, Kingsmill reflects not only undisturbed nature, much as it might have been in those early days, but also the rich history of Colonial America that surrounds Kingsmill. At the Macaulay Mini-Park, you can also launch canoes and kayaks, do a little fishing, enjoy a picnic lunch overlooking a portion of the extensive Kingsmill Pond, or watch turtles lazily sunning beside the foot bridge. You might even catch sight of a few white swans. It's a place of quiet beauty. Kayaking and canoeing can also be done on the larger expanse of Kingsmill Pond.



From the earliest days of the 17th century when Colonel Thomas Pettus from England arrived in what is now known as the Kingsmill today, the vision of the community has been shaped and nurtured by the land and its inviting environment-woodlands, wildlife and the waters of the James River. So vital an impact has the land maintained over its history that the developers of Kingsmill On the James, as stewards of the land, pledged to design the residential community with the beauty of the environment in mind and create a park like space in which people of varied backgrounds could live surrounded by natural beauty and a sense of tranquility.

In keeping with that promise of stewardship, Kingsmill has preserved approximately 40 percent of the area as green space, a majority of which is easily accessible to residents. There are over 5 miles of established paved trails shared for walking and biking, as well as those accessible only on foot, many of which take you through woods, over ravines, and beside streams, constantly helping keep you in touch with the sights and sounds of nature.

Bicyclists are encouraged to stay on the paved routes. Those adventurous walkers who venture to pathways off the main route are cautioned to be careful. Most of these routes are natural ground, pea gravel and rocks; many are steep and uneven. These paths are subject to weather and natural conditions that can make them difficult to maneuver. While the surrounding terrain is interesting to observe, never lose sight of where you're walking. Whether on or off the paths, avoid risks and be careful. Your enjoyment and safety are our concern.



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More information regarding the trails can be found on the
KCSA website - www.kingsmillcommunity.org.
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Kingsmill on the James

Pathways to Discovery



Williamsburg, Virginia

Seasonally, the many trees found along Kingsmill's pathways provide a constantly changing visual pallet of color. To increase your hiking and biking enjoyment as you explore these



pathways, Kingsmill has labeled many of its varied trees. You'll find among them numerous varieties of maple, oak, holly, hickory, gum, pine, crape myrtle, dogwood, magnolia and elm.

You'll also see an ecologically-inspired rain garden found alongside Southall Road between Macaulay and Holdsworth Roads where lirioppe, winterberry, sweet flag, Christmas fern and nandina replenish the soil with nutrients from rainwater absorbed into the ground by the plants, while helping prevent erosion runoff. Crossing over Halfway Creek, there's even an award-winning short span bridge considered an excellent example of the contrast between linear design and the fullness of nature.

As you travel these paths, you'll see references to the names of the first colonists who populated our community through land grants in 1619. Names such as William Fairfax, Ensign William Spence, and Francis Thacker, as well as others such as Bray, Macaulay, Whittaker and Wareham.





Among Kingsmill's many trails, you'll also discover a few historical locations such as Johnson's Mill, and the Utopia monument.



Johnson's Mill: The remnants of the 17th century mill reflect the earliest days of life on what is now Kingsmill. The land on which the mill was located was owned by several prominent colonists, serving as part of the Utopia Plantation and the larger 1250-acre Littletown Plantation. These land holdings were eventually owned by James Bray Johnson. Following the Civil War, Johnson's Mill was managed by former slaves and tenant farmers. Today, the remnants serve as a spillway for Kingsmill Pond. As you walk back up the hill, you'll cross over a portion of the golf course, so watch out for golf carts and flying golf balls.

Utopia Quarters: From around 1660 to 1775, groups of enslaved Africans lived and worked the bluffs overlooking the James River where they tended tobacco and cornfields and livestock. Eventually named Utopia Quarters after John Utie, an original land owner, the location served as home to four generations of Africans. During archeological excavations in the 1990s, researchers uncovered posts for a number of timber-framed dwellings, many of which had hand-dug storage pits in which the residents stored valuable possessions and plant roots.

Site studies revealed an established community structure existed at Utopia Quarters with central space for cooking and socializing. Evidence exists that indicates the residents practiced organized religion and made offerings to African gods. It also suggests that they buried their



family members with objects of importance to them, such as clay pipes, tobacco and talismans against evil spirits. Following excavation of a small unmarked cemetery containing 25 graves, half of which were for children, the remains were reburied nearby. The Utopia Memorial marks the significance of the discovery and its importance.

One of the magical features of Kingsmill is its location on the James River. You can fish, sun, swim, and search for seashells along a sandy shore. You might even see an osprey nesting on the remains of pilings from docking long ago abandoned to time.

James River

Paved Bicycle and Walking Paths	Bridges
Unpaved Walking trails	Tunnel
Security	Historical sites

A Mounts Bay Recreation Center Playground, Swimming Pool, Tennis, Picnic Area, Conference Rooms and Restrooms
B Southall Recreation Center Playground, Swimming Pool, Tennis, Pickleball, Picnic Area and Restrooms
C Wareham Pond Recreation Center Playground, Swimming Pool, Tennis, Picnic Area, Conference Rooms and Restrooms