

Hart-Miller Island

Dredged Material Placement Site



DREDGED
MATERIAL
MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM



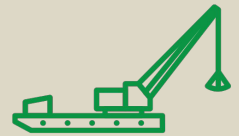
LOCATION

Northern
Chesapeake Bay
in Baltimore Co.
near the mouth
of Middle River

1,100 ACRES

Holds 100 million cubic yards
(mcy) of dredged material

1984



Inflow of dredged material
occurred between 1984-1990 in
the South Cell and between
1985-2009 in the North Cell

Hart-Miller Island (HMI) was originally a chain of three islands that had been heavily eroded over time. In the 1970s, Port partners proposed using dredged material to restore the two larger islands, Hart and Miller, back to their original footprint. A dike that connected the two islands was completed in 1981, and from 1984 to 2009, dredged material from nearby shipping channels was used to fill the impoundment. The result: the creation of HMI as it exists today.

A FIRST FOR THE CHESAPEAKE

This project was the first of its kind in the Chesapeake Bay. Citizens, conservationists, and scientists initially worried that dredged material sourced from potentially contaminated sites could harm fish, wildlife, and water quality. Others worried about potential commercial development of the island, as well as issues related to noise, odor, and aesthetics.

To address these concerns, the HMI Citizens Oversight Committee was established in 1981 to ensure open, ongoing dialogue with surrounding communities. Today, the South Cell, restored in 2005, is managed as a state park. The 750-acre North Cell is currently in the habitat design phase. Once complete, the entire site will be managed as a state park.



Friends of Hart-Miller Island State
Park was established in 2021 to
promote and enhance HMI as a
resource that provides natural,
economic, recreational, and
educational benefits



HMI is a haven for
boaters and wildlife,
including over 300 bird
species, 30 of those
breeding on site



www.Maryland-DMMP.com

Updated 11/2025

Hart-Miller Island



In 2016, the Hart-Miller Island South Cell opened to the public as part of the HMI State Park. It now welcomes tens of thousands of visitors each year to fish, camp, boat, swim, bike, hike, and picnic. The HMI State Park, managed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, features a large pond and over five miles of trails with breathtaking views of the Chesapeake Bay.

Conditions on and around HMI were monitored for decades to protect wildlife and water quality. No negative effects from HMI have been observed in the surrounding environment. Maryland Department of the Environment recently recognized that the HMI South Cell is fully restored and functioning as wildlife habitat and removed all monitoring requirements from the site's discharge permit.



ACCESS

HMI State Park is open seasonally and accessible only by boat with 5 miles of biking & walking trails. For more information on seasonally visiting the DNR state park:

<https://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/pages/central/hartmiller.aspx>

For information, including public tours, visit maryland-dmmp.com.



A wide range of wildlife visits the island, including songbirds, owls, herons, deer, foxes, and muskrats. At times, the sheer number of waterfowl and migratory birds creates one of the largest single concentrations of waterfowl in the Mid-Atlantic region.



"Long Trail Loop is 1.8 miles and offers interpretive signage details about the various wildlife and different ecosystems that are a part of Hart-Miller Island, as well some history on this unique area. I love biking this loop and make sure to do it at least once a summer."

– PropTalk Magazine



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