



4th National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration

The Spirit of Cooperation



AUGUST 1-5, 2011 | BALTIMORE, MARYLAND • USA | BALTIMORE MARRIOTT WATERFRONT

Pre-Conference Technical Field Trip – Sunday, July 31, 2011

**Poplar Island: Paul S. Sarbanes Environmental Restoration Site** (Tour is limited to 20 people)

**Itinerary:**

7:30am	Bus departs Baltimore Marriott Hotel
9:30am	Arrive at Tilghman Island
10:00am	Boat ride to Poplar Island
10:00am-1:00pm	Tour, lunch and lecture on Poplar Island
1:30pm	Boat ride back to Tilghman Island
2:00-4:00pm	Bus returns to Hotel

**Description:**

Poplar Island, recently on the verge of disappearing, is today a national model for habitat restoration and the beneficial use of dredged material. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District has teamed with the Maryland Port Administration and other Federal and State agencies to restore Poplar Island using dredged material from the Baltimore Harbor and Channels Federal navigation projects (only approach channels). Just off the Chesapeake Bay coastline, about 34 miles south of Baltimore in Talbot County, MD, Poplar Island is being returned to its former size and important ecological function while helping to ensure the economic vitality of the region. Approximately 68 million cubic yards (mcy) of dredged material will be placed to develop 735 acres of wetlands, 840 acres of uplands and 140 acres of open water embayment.



At completion, Poplar Island will be half upland habitat and half wetlands. Trees, shrubs, and grasses will be planted in the uplands and the area will support terrapins, birds and mammals including foxes, raccoons, squirrels and deer. The wetlands will be a combination of low marshes and high marshes. Low marshes are wetland habitats that are regularly flooded by tidal waters. High marshes are infrequently flooded due to strong winds or exceptionally high tides. The wetlands will be planted with a variety of plants to provide habitat for a wide range of animals including, fish, shrimp, crabs, shorebirds, wading birds, and mammals.

It is a 20 minute boat ride to Poplar Island from Tilghman Island and once on the island we will take a bus to tour the entire site which is 3 miles long

and .5 miles wide. The tour usually takes about 2.5 hours and a boxed lunch will be provided.

**What to wear and bring:** Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes for walking and do not wear sandals or shorts. Dress for the weather as the trip will be held rain or shine. Feel free to bring cameras and binoculars.

**Food Offered:** Water and lunch will be provided.

**Driving Distance:** Is approximately 80 miles to Tilghman Island. [www.poplar-map.notlong.com](http://www.poplar-map.notlong.com)

**Cost of Tour: \$75.00 per person**  
(Fees include lunch and transportation)



**For Questions about Tour Logistics, Contact:**

**Sharon Madden**, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District | Phone: (410) 962-4598

**For Questions about Poplar Island Tour:**

**Laura Baldwin**, Poplar Island Tour Director  
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**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Tour Guides:**

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