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Nearby Annapolis is the hub of U.S. Naval history, and it's home to the exclusive U.S. Naval Academy. The U.S. Naval Academy bridge crosses the Severn River and leads into the Academy, leading visitors to this historic site since its construction in 1994. The original bascule bridge was replaced with the current bridge—the design of which was the winning entry in a competition. It was officially named the U.S. Naval Academy Bridge in honor of the Naval Academy's 150th anniversary. To get straight to the Academy while avoiding the roads in downtown Annapolis, the U.S. Naval Academy bridge is the way to go. And thousand of folks will be crossing it in just a couple of months for the annual fanfare of Commissioning Week! May 19-26, 2017 Commissioning Week honors the First Class Midshipmen upon completion of four years at the Naval Academy. Parents, family members and guests are invited to attend a series of events at the Naval Academy in honor of the graduates, including the Blue Angels Flight Demonstration, Color Parade, special awards ceremonies, and musical performances. For the full lineup, check out the Commissioning Week Schedule of Events. (Note: Visitors and guests are highly encouraged to park at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium and utilize the free shuttle bus service. More information can be found here.) The Arnel-Leftwich Visitor Center & Naval Academy Gift Shop is where guided tours depart and where you can buy official Academy gear and collectibles. Open from 9-5 normally, the gift shop stays open until 6pm on Wednesday and Saturday during Commissioning Week. The U.S. Naval Academy Museum welcomes more than 100,000 visitors annually from all over the world. Two floors of exhibits showcase the history of seapower, the development of the U.S. Navy, and the role of the U.S. Naval Academy in producing officers capable of leading America's sailors and marines. If you're a fan of naval history, you'll be wowed by the displays. They combine historical artifacts with video and audio technology to bring to life the stories of the men and women who have served their country at sea. Admission to the museum is free, and hours of operation are Monday through Saturday from 9am to 5pm and Sunday from 11am to 5pm. (Note: Visitors to the Naval Academy over the age of 18 must show a valid government ID (driver's license, passport, CAC, etc.) at the gate.) The museum's latest exhibit highlights the Navy's dedication to equality and excellence. The Academy class of 1976 was the first to admit women to the Academy. Ability, Not Gender explores the history of female midshipmen at the Naval Academy. The exhibit catalogs and explores all aspects of life for female midshipmen in the past 40 years, including past challenges and the incredible achievements and successes of female midshipmen. Come stay with us at the nearby Wayside Inn to enjoy the festivities of Commissioning Week without the hubbub of staying in Annapolis. Want to give your brand videos a cinematic edge? Join our visual experts and special guests for an info-packed hour of insights to elevate your next video project. Tune in on June 24 at 11am ET.Register NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished than ever.See What's NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for your visuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS ReportWant to give your brand videos a cinematic edge? Join our visual experts and special guests for an info-packed hour of insights to elevate your next video project. Tune in on June 24 at 11am ET.Register NowEnjoy sharper detail, more accurate color, lifelike lighting, believable backgrounds, and more with our new model update. Your generated images will be more polished than ever.See What's NewExplore how consumers want to see climate stories told today, and what that means for your visuals.Download Our Latest VisualGPS ReportNote: If you already have a Waterway Guide account please choose, when prompted, to share your email with us so we can sign you in to your proper account. POSTED ON: Monday, May 5, 2025 1:40 PM by Public Affairs This year's events that will be live streamed on our YouTube channel are the Herndon Climb (May 14 at 0730), Marine Corps Awards Ceremony (May 20 at 1000), Prizes and Awards Ceremony (May 22 at 1400), and Graduation and Commissioning (May 23 at 0830). Tuesday, May 13 SEA TRIALS ROAD CLOSURES The Naval Academy Bridge (Rt. 450) will be closed 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The following will be closed 10:15 a.m -1:00 p.m.: Badger Rd. and Annapolis Baltimore Blvd. (450) intersection; Baltimore Annapolis Blvd. (450/648) intersection; Baltimore Annapolis Blvd. (648) and Greenbury Point Rd. intersection; Greenbury Point Rd. and Kinkaid Rd. intersection; Naval Exchange entrance; Alder Rd. and Kinkaid Rd. intersection; Eucalyptus Rd. and Kinkaid Rd. intersection; Beach Rd. and Kinkaid Rd. intersection. Expect additional delays for a short period after roads reopen due to high traffic build-up. Wednesday, May 14: HERNDON MONUMENT CLIMB - USNA in front of Chapel beginning at 8 a.m. Members of the fourth class (freshmen or "plebes") climb the 21-foot obelisk to retrieve a white plebe "dixie cup" (hat worn during plebe summer) on the top and replace it with an upperclassman's cover (hat). Tuesday and Wednesday, May20 - 21: BLUE ANGELS FLIGHT DEMONSTRATION - Over Severn River beginning at 2 p.m. The U.S. Navy's Flight Demonstration Squadron's Blue Angels will perform a variety of high-speed, aerobatic precision-maneuvers in an approximate two-hour performance over the Severn River. BLUE ANGELS ROAD AND BRIDGE CLOSURES The Naval Academy Bridge (MD Rt. 450) will be closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic at the times listed below on May 20 (rehearsal day) and 21. Vehicles entering and leaving Annapolis should use alternate routes. Naval Academy Bridge closed 10:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and again at 1:45 p.m. until the completion of rehearsal and show (approximately 4:00 p.m.). The Severn River will be closed to all watercraft from NW (approx. off Wardour Bluffs) of the Naval Academy Bridge (Rt. 450) to Spa Creek. Call U.S. Coast Guard Sector Maryland at 410-576-2693 for further details. Gate 1 closed 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Gate 8 will only be open for staff, faculty, residents, credentialed media, and high priority traffic. Thursday, May 22: COLOR PARADE - USNA on Worden Field beginning at 11 a.m. The highlight of the Color Parade is the formal presentation of the color company pennant by the superintendent, the company commander, and the "color honoree" to the newly designated spring color company. Each semester, the color company is chosen by virtue of its excellence in academics, athletics, and professional accomplishments. The color company competition began in 1867. Category: Press Releases, General Interest Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made . You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, Annapolis, MD 21409. USAFriday: 8AM-6PMSaturday: 8:00 AM-6:00 PMMonday: 8:00 AM-6:00 PMTuesday: 8:00 AM-6:00 PMWednesday: Open 24 hoursThursday: 8:00 AM-6:00 PMFriday: 8:00 AM-6:00 PMSaturday: 8:00 AM-6:00 PM Annapolis in Anne Arundel County, Maryland — The American Northeast (Mid-Atlantic)Photographed by F. Robby, September 7, 2009 1. The United States Naval Academy Bridge MarkerInscription. The United States Naval Academy Bridge. . A bridge has served this area since 1836 when a timber trestle bridge with a swing span was built across the Severn River. It was replaced with a concrete and steel low-level drawbridge in 1924. After more than 70 years it became necessary to replace the drawbridge. In recognition of this unique location in the State Capital, near the home of the United States Naval Academy and overlooking one of the most scenic rivers in the country, Governor William Donald Schaefer's Office of Art and Culture and the State Highway Administration held a special competition in 1989 to design a new bridge. This was the first major bridge competition successfully concluded in the United States in 100 years. The winning concept, which combined engineering excellence with aesthetics, produced the current, high-level, fixed-span bridge completed in 1995. The bridge was named the United States Naval Academy Bridge to honor the school's 150-year anniversary. [right marker] The United States Naval Academy Bridge , Commemorating 150 Years of Service to Our Country , Severn River, Annapolis, State of Maryland , 1995, William Donald Schaefer, Governor , Louis L. Goldstein, Comptroller , Lucille Maurer, Treasurer, Maryland Department of Transportation , O. James Lighthizer, Secretary , Hal Kassoff, State Highway Administrator , Earle S. Freedman, Chief Bridge Engineer , Paul E. Matys, SHA Project Engineer-Design , Edward H. Meehan, District Engineer , Daniel C. Witt, SHA Project Engineer-Construction , Douglas N. Silber, Legal Counsel , GREINER, INCORPORATED, DESIGNER, CIANBRO CORPORATION, CONTRACTOR. [left marker] Severn River Bridge, Built 1922-24, Albert C. Ritchie - Governor, State Roads Commission, John N. Mackall - Chairman and Chief Engr., Omar D. Crothers, D.C. Winebrenner, L.H. Steuart - Secretary A bridge has served this area since 1836 when a timber trestle bridge with a swing span was built across the Severn River. It was replaced with a concrete and steel low-level drawbridge in 1924. After more than 70 years it became necessary to replace the drawbridge. 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James Lighthizer, Secretary Hal Kassoff, State Paid Advertisement Click on the ad for more information.Please report objectionable advertising to the Editor. Highway Administrator Earle S. Freedman, Chief Bridge Engineer Paul E. Matys, SHA Project Engineer-Design Edward H. Meehan, District Engineer Daniel C. Witt, SHA Project Engineer-Construction Douglas N. Silber, Legal Counsel GREINER, INCORPORATED, DESIGNER CIANBRO CORPORATION, CONTRACTOR [left marker] Severn River Bridge, Built 1922-24, Albert C. Ritchie - Governor, State Roads Commission, John N. Mackall - Chairman & Chief Engr., Omar D. Crothers, D.C. Winebrenner, L.H. Steuart - Secretary Erected 1995 by State of Maryland. Topics: This historical marker is listed in these topic lists: Bridges & Viaducts • Education • Industry & Commerce. A significant historical year for this entry is 1836. Location: 38° 59.48' N, 76° 29.508' W. Marker is in Annapolis, Maryland, in Anne Arundel County. It is on U.S. Naval Academy Bridge (Maryland Route 450) 0.2 miles east of Badger Road, on the left when traveling east. Touch for map. Marker is in this post office area: Annapolis MD 21409, United States of America. Touch for directions. Other nearby markers: At least 8 other markers are within walking distance of this marker: Evolutions of Strawberry Hill (approx. ¼ mile away); Jeannette Arctic Exploring Expedition (approx. 0.3 miles away); Henry Hays Lockwood (approx. 0.3 miles away); Husband Edward Kimmel (approx. 0.3 miles away); Hammond-Harwood HousePhotographed by F. Robby, September 7, 2009 2. The United States Naval Academy Bridge Marker (approx. 0.4 miles away); Terwilliger Brothers Field (approx. 0.4 miles away); Max E Bishop (approx. 0.4 miles away); Oyster Reef (approx. 0.4 miles away). Touch for a list and map of all markers in Annapolis. Photographed by F. Robby, September 7, 2009 3. Severn River Bridge MarkerPhotographed by F. Robby, September 7, 2009 4. The United States Naval Academy BridgeOverlooking the Severn River, north side of the bridge.Photographed by F. Robby, September 7, 2009 5. The United States Naval Academy Bridge EntranceThe Seal of Maryland is on the posts at either end of the bridge.Photographed by F. Robby, September 7, 2009 6. The United States Naval AcademyAs seen from the top of the bridge. Credits. This page was last revised on January 20, 2020. It was originally submitted on September 18, 2009, by F. Robby of Baltimore, Maryland. This page has been viewed 2,251 times since then and 193 times this year. Photos: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. submitted on September 18, 2009, by F. Robby of Baltimore, Maryland. Rarely-seen view of the Naval Academy Bridge This is one of many "rarely-seen" views of the Annapolis area that I've photographed from the U.S. Naval Academy grounds. I say that because access to the USNA "yard" is restricted and not everyone has the opportunity to enjoy the marvelous photo opportunities on and from there. As a military spouse., I do have that privilege and never tire of the beautiful views, grounds, and buildings. I noticed this view of the U.S. Naval Academy Bridge as I walked to my car from the pharmacy yesterday and it occurred to me that anyone relocating to the area might enjoy a series of Annapolis photos taken from a different angle than they usually find online. In the following photo of the U.S. Naval Academy Bridge, we see the Blue Angels overhead in their annual performance during Commissioning Week at the Academy. (CREDIT: U.S. Naval Academy, with permission.) This was taken from the field you see between the cars and the Severn River in the first photo. The U.S. Naval Academy Bridge is located on Route 450 headed Northeast between Annapolis and Rt. 50 en route to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. It's adjacent to the USNA, not on the grounds, and its a public thoroughfare with a beautiful view of the Severn and the USNA. The bridge you see here replaced a working drawbridge which had been the main access to the Academy from the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Baltimore at one time. The new bridge was built in 1994 - perfect timing for re-naming it the U.S. Naval Academy Bridge in honor of the Navy's premier higher education institution. I suspect it still satisfies the nick-name some Midshipmen (students) have given it over the years, however... the "Oh shit" bridge, indicating the state of their nerves crossing the bridge en route to the USNA for the first day of Plebe Summer. Today, this bridge is the shortcut enabling locals to get from Arnold and Severna Park to Annapolis without having to use Rt. 50, which can be a bottleneck on weekends during beach season. In fact, it's also a shortcut for locals to avoid the Severn River Bridge traveling from Crofton, Riva, and Annapolis to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. That comes in handy whenever there's construction or an accident on that stretch of the road. While there's loads of information online about the U.S. Naval Academy Bridge, I suspect it's that last paragraph which newcomers to the area will find most helpful as they learn their way around Annapolis. If you're relocating to the Annapolis area, I hope you'll think of me when you're ready to start looking at homes and communities. We moved to the area when my husband got PCS orders to the USNA as an instructor after four years of sea-duty out of San Diego. What a great opportunity that was for us, and I'm sure you'll enjoy the Annapolis area, too. This information was provided to you by Margaret Woda, an Associate Broker with Long & Foster Real Estate in Crofton Maryland. Contact Margaret today for general real estate information or to learn how she can help you buy or sell a home in Annapolis, Bowie, Crofton, Davidsonville, Gambrills, and Odenton. Crofton real estate HOME SEARCH HOME BUYERS HOME SELLERS

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