

For your safety...

- ✦ Sign in/out @ launch Kiosk.
- ✦ Always wear an approved life jacket. A Personal Flotation Device (PFD) is required by law.
- ✦ Be aware of tides and currents. Strong currents are marked (W) on the map.
- ✦ Have an up-to-date weather forecast, and keep local weather and sea breeze patterns in mind. Watch for afternoon thunderstorms, which are often short but violent with strong winds and heavy rains. They may be localized phenomena that are not forecasted.
- ✦ Avoid marked swimming areas.
- ✦ Do not assume that power-boaters notice you. They may not be knowledgeable, or realize that their wake can potentially capsize your kayak.
- ✦ Face kayak into large boat wakes.
- ✦ Remain only in designated resting areas or trails to protect the park's natural resources and avoid ticks and poison ivy.

Emergency Numbers

Orient Park Office: 631-323-2440
State Park Police: 631-669-2500
U.S. Coast Guard: 631-261-6868
Greenport Harbormaster: 516-702-4381
Southold Bay Constable: 631-765-2798



NEW YORK STATE
 David A. Paterson, Governor
 NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS,
 RECREATION & HISTORIC PRESERVATION
 Carol Ash, Commissioner
 LONG ISLAND STATE PARK REGION
Bellmont Lake State Park, P.O. Box 247, Babylon, New York, 11702 (631) 699-1000

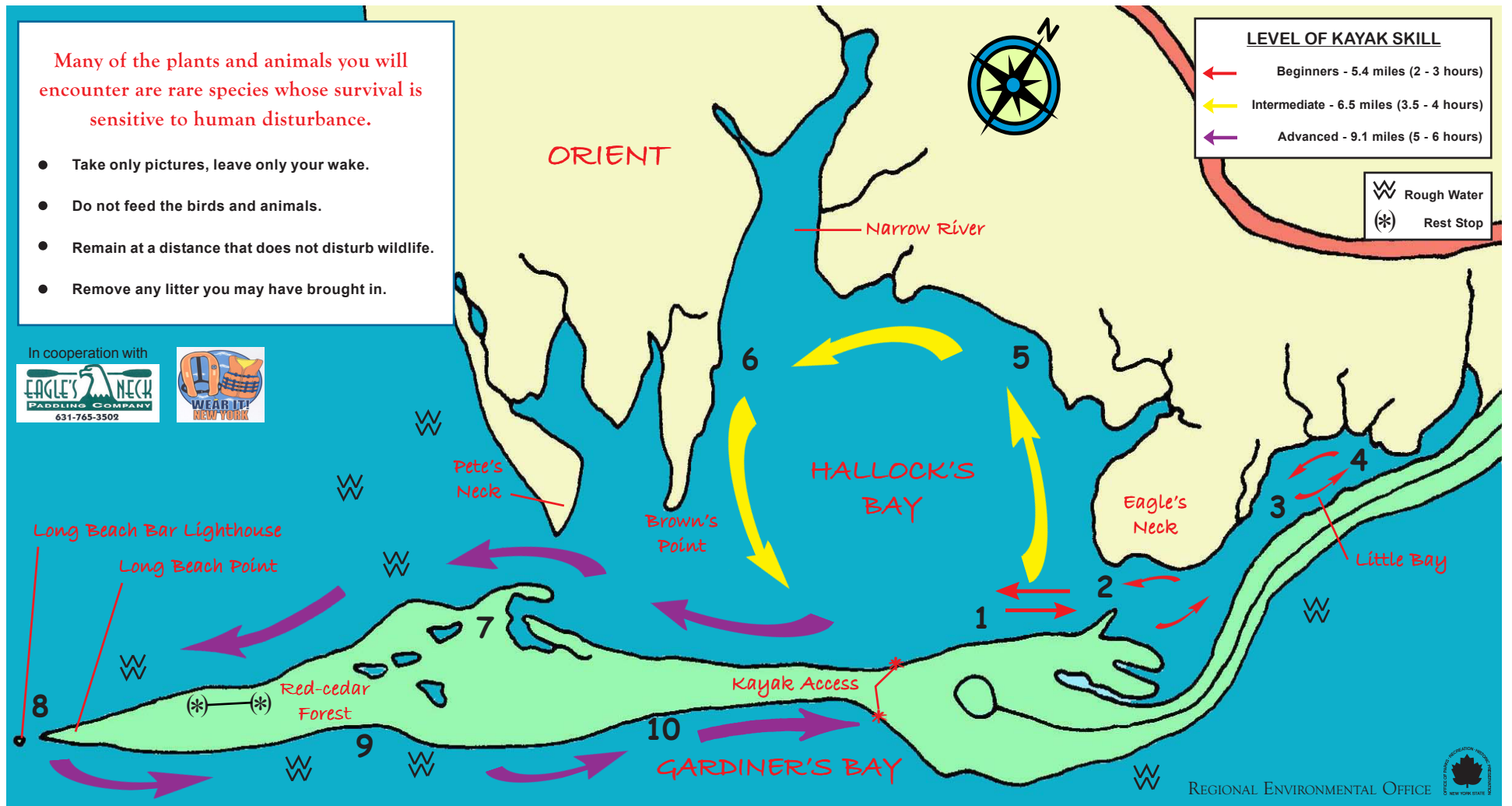
KAYAK GUIDE

Welcome to Orient Beach State Park

Along with its breathtaking scenery, Orient has a rich natural and cultural history. This map illustrates routes to help you navigate the waters surrounding the park. The numbers correspond with posted numbers on egrets that highlight the area's ecological and historical features. Enjoy your journey.

Many of the plants and animals you will encounter are rare species whose survival is sensitive to human disturbance.

- Take only pictures, leave only your wake.
- Do not feed the birds and animals.
- Remain at a distance that does not disturb wildlife.
- Remove any litter you may have brought in.



REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE





1 Osprey Nest

Tall trees and telephone poles are great nesting sites for osprey because it keeps them safe from predators and provides a place to see prey. Watch these fish hawks plunge into the waters around you to catch fish from the bays.



Osprey nest by the water to be near their food supply.



2 Eagles Neck

In the 1770's before the neck was cleared and plowed by oxen, three bald eagle nests were reported at this site. Eagles were recorded visiting the Orient area every year until 1964. Today, eagles occasionally can be seen in the fall and winter.



American Oystercatcher



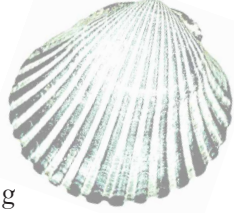
Great Blue Heron

photo by Pam Hunter



3 Peconic Bay Scallops

This scallop, known for its delicate flavor, was once harvested here yielding thousands of pounds of food. In the 1980s scallop production dropped drastically due to a brown tide that wiped out the scallop's habitat. Several buoys here mark a restoration site to rebuild the scallop population.



4 Coastal Salt Marsh

Salt marshes are important nurseries for marine life. Watch for diamond-backed terrapin turtles sunning along the edge of the marsh, egrets wading in the shallows hunting for fish and fiddler crabs scurrying through the marsh.



photo by Karen Munson



5 1938 Hurricane Berm

This berm was created to protect farmland after 50 foot waves from the Hurricane of 1938 flooded the region. The hurricane caused so much salt to be deposited onto the soil that it took years of cleansing rain before the land was able to grow crops again.

The road into Orient State Park after the storm.



6 Hallock's Potato Wharf

This is the site of a dock where schooners came to load potatoes for New England markets. It was near the site of a dilapidated farm bought in 1870 by George W. Hallock who revolutionized farming resulting in a tenfold yield in crops.



For additional information, contact Oyster Pond's Historical Society.



7 Colonial Bird Nesting Area

Although you might be enticed to come ashore here, remain in your kayak because this is an endangered species nesting area. Least terns nest in large colonies here and piping plovers and other shorebirds inhabit this sandbar.

photo by Karen Munson



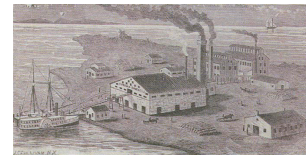
8 Long Beach Bar Lighthouse

This lighthouse was erected in 1870 to guide ships away from a dangerous shoal and sandbar. A fire destroyed it in 1963, but in 1990 it was restored to its original grandeur. Solar panels now power the houses guiding light.



9 Fish Factory Ruins

The pile of brick and debris along the shore here marks the location of the Atlantic & Virginia Fertilizer Company. It produced the highest quantity of oil in the country from a fish called Menhaden (Bunker). The by-products were used by local farmers as fertilizer.



The fish factory produced over 883,000 gallons of oil in 1884.



10 Maritime Red Cedar Forest

The ghostly dead trees here are due to rising sea levels. This was once part of the maritime Red Cedar Forest that thrived here. Though plants here are well adapted to a salty environment, the roots can not withstand long periods of flooding.



It's the largest & highest quality of its type in New York.