



— **MUSEUM HOURS** —

April thru October
Daily, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Special Additional Hours
June thru August
Daily, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Mid-March and November
Weekends Only, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

December thru February
The museum is closed to the public.
Open by appointment only.

Admission is free.
Donations welcome.

— **CHESAPEAKE BEACH
RAILWAY MUSEUM** —

4155 Mears Avenue
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732

www.cbrm.org / 410-257-3892
cbrailway@calvertcountymd.gov



Maryland Relay for Impaired Hearing or Speech
1-800-735-2258 Statewide toll-free

The museum is accessible
to people with disabilities.

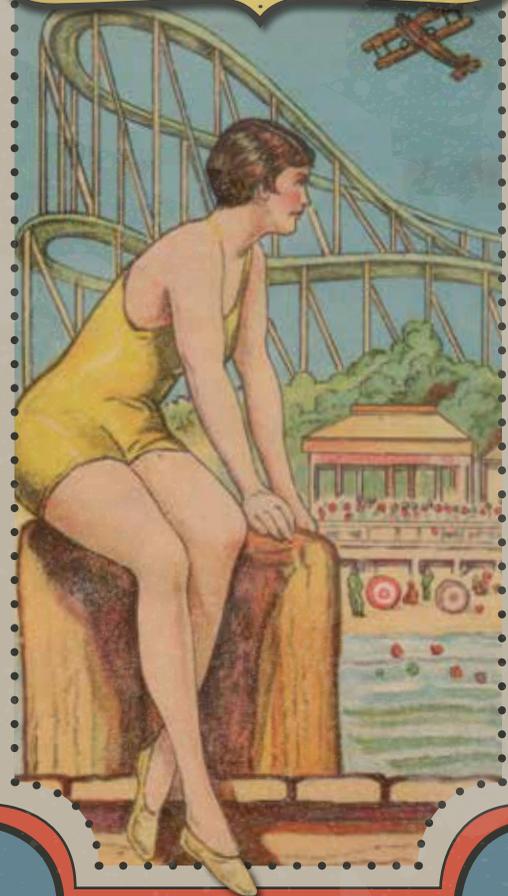
*From the collection of the Chesapeake Beach
Railway Museum, all rights reserved.*

 Find us on Facebook!

ALL ABOARD!

Chesapeake Beach
**RAILWAY
MUSEUM**

☆ Calvert County, Maryland ☆



*Engine No. 5 "blows its stack" to signal
the start of a trip from Washington, D.C.
to Chesapeake Beach in 1920*



Postcard, c. 1937



The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum

THE GRAND DESIGN. THE GREAT VISION.

Even today, the idea seems remarkable.



"The Belvedere"

Ladies plunging into the pool; possibly a publicity shot for Seaside Park, circa 1930s

In the late 1890s, Otto Mears envisioned a lavish resort town on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, with reliable and convenient railroad service from Washington and Baltimore. Along with a group of Denver associates, Mears designed Chesapeake Beach as a resort town with beachfront hotels, a race track, casino, bathhouses, and beaches. He had a 1,600-foot boardwalk built over the water, supporting a band shell, carousel, dance pavilion, roller coaster, and many amusement booths. There was a mile-long pier to receive passengers arriving daily by steamer from Baltimore in the summer months.

On June 9, 1900, the first train arrived at Chesapeake Beach with much fanfare and a full load of passengers. The one-hour excursion, nicknamed the "Honeysuckle Route," carried passengers and freight daily through the Southern Maryland countryside. Like the trip itself, however, the train to Chesapeake Beach wasn't destined to last long. The Great Depression of the 1930s and the increasing popularity of the automobile brought on the demise of the railroad. On April 15, 1935, the final train chugged away from the Chesapeake Beach station with its last passengers.

Today, thanks to the work of local preservationists and the Calvert County Historical Society, the old railway station can once again carry you on a journey through time.

The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum is the last remaining train depot from the railway situated on its original site and is the only train depot located within Calvert County. During your visit, our trained staff brings the compelling stories of the railway and amusement park to life. Explore the Dolores parlor car, the last remaining original passenger car from the railway, located directly behind the museum. Discover the "living diorama" work-in-progress, a historically accurate model of the railroad, complete with bridges and a working carousel. From the display of historical swimwear to "Uncle Charlie's" original conductor cap, experience more than a train station's history; discover the rich history and continuing evolution of Chesapeake Beach as a resort town on the Chesapeake.

The trains may never run again, but the museum can still take you back to turn-of-the-century Chesapeake Beach. **All aboard!**

The Great Derby roller coaster

