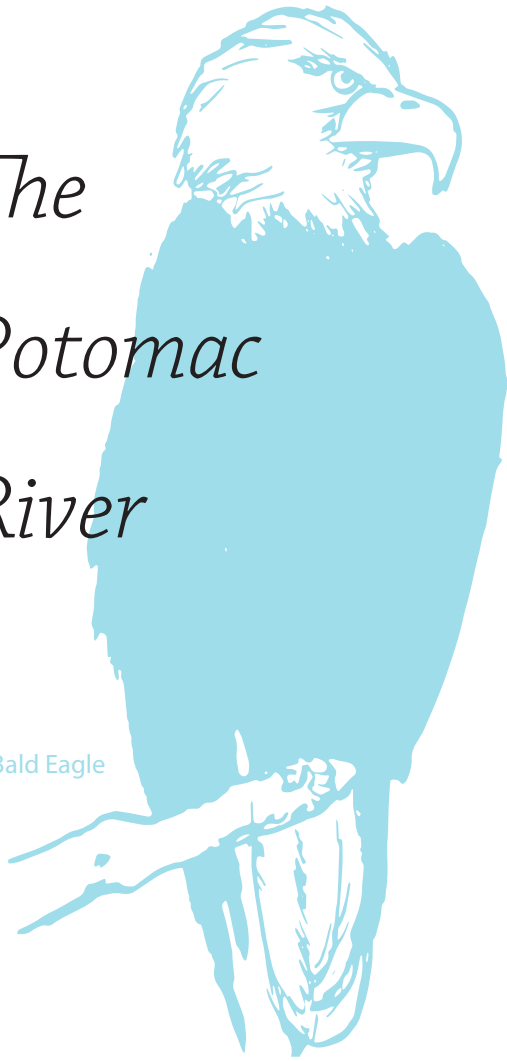


The Potomac River

Bald Eagle



THE POTOMAC RIVER is a river that flows through Washington, D.C. It is one of the largest rivers on the East coast of the United States. It is a well-known river in this country because Washington, D.C. is situated upon its shores. It connects to other East coast rivers like the Shenandoah and the Anacostia.

The Potomac begins at Fairfax Stone, West Virginia. It meanders past Harper's Ferry, Alexandria, and Arlington before it reaches Washington, D.C., where it empties into the Chesapeake Bay. The area around its mouth is very populated, with over 5 million people living near it. Though it's well-known, it's not very long: it only runs for about 383 miles.

The Potomac is an important river because it provides the D.C. area with drinking water. It forms some of the border between Maryland and D.C. It is sometimes called "The Nation's River" because of its role in historical events: George Washington was born near it and spent most of his life around it, and all of D.C. is situated near it. Fittingly, bald eagle habitats can be found along its shores.

FACT FILE

Name: _____ Length: _____

Source: _____ Mouth: _____

Cities Along It: _____

Tributaries: _____

Importance to Communities Near It: _____