

M. R. Hyker's Latest Adventure



03/02/08 - [Fair Hill Natural Resources Management Area, MD](#) (Maps and Trail Notes to follow): Janet and I did this as a last minute whim, not wanting to waste a beautiful almost spring-like day. We packed our gear, threw the dogs out in the yard and headed north on I-95. We arrived at the desired trailhead around 1:00 and were able to flag down a DNR Ranger to purchase a map from him. After perusing the map for a bit we decided to do "The Orange Loop" to get a general feel for the terrain. The trail description rated this at strenuous but after hiking in Northern VA, PA and WV we found this loop to be quite easy. It was a pleasant mix of mature woods, streams and open pastures. There were a couple of steep hills but they were very brief. Generally speaking we found the terrain to be more "rolling". Some of the trails were a bit muddy, especially in flat areas, but still passable. We were both hiking in our shirt sleeves after hiking the first 1.5 miles. The route was clearly marked. We had one moment of apprehension where the trail split. Since we had plenty of time we investigated both then continued on the correct route. We were back at the truck around 3:30 having hiked approximately 5 miles. I've seen enough to ensure that I will be back with some Sierra Club hikers to explore a much larger circuit.