Lewis Road Kayak Launch

**MCBP Role:** restoration and monitoring.

**MCBP initial cost:** 0

**MCBP yearly cost:** $1,100 annual for electric and port-a-potty.

**Total Cost:** -$80,000 ($36,717 reimbursement to Partners: OC, SHA, DNR, “Friends of Ayers Creek”)

**Size:** 36 Acres

**Purpose/Benefit** – This renovated OC landfill provides public water access to the sheltered upper region of Ayers Creek, located in the Holly Grove Swamp.

**Public Use:** Open from early spring until late fall. This year the site is closed for winter repairs. Site could remain open year-round in the future.

**Road to parking area,** largely unaltered but some filling done in isolated areas.

**Parking area**

**Existing road,** no alterations, 850ft.

**Wood lined ramp to river,** 120 ft.

**Automatic gate**

**12-13-11 controlled burn**

**Aerial view**

**Low tide shoreline in the summer.**
Lewis Road Kayak Launch

**Objective:** To provide safe and convenient public access to the headwaters of Ayres Creek for non-motorized watercraft.

**Public Use Impact:** The Holly Grove Swamp Area, with nearly 4,000 acres of contiguous forest within its boundaries is one of last strongholds of forested wilderness in northern Worcester County. This kayak launch gives residents and tourists a chance to explore and appreciate this lesser known jewel of the coastal bays watershed.

**The Future:** Considering the positive feedback generated by the opening of the launch this year it is likely that this launch will grow in popularity in the coming years. An interpretive sign is being designed, and the launch site will be included in the currently-under-development Assateague Water Trails map. MCBP will continue to use volunteers for maintenance of shoreline, walkway, and restoration areas. OC will maintain the larger area (the road, parking lot, and property remainder).